

SCOTLAND'S YEAR AT SMITHFIELD COUNTRY LIFE

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DECEMBER 17, 1959

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classified properties

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classified announcements

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COUNTRY LIFE

CXXVI No. 3276

DECEMBER 17, 1959

KNIGHT, FRANK & RUTLEY

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Within easy reach of Eastbourne and the coast. Close to station and buses.

BEAUTIFUL 15th-CENTURY MOATED MANOR HOUSE

Well modernised and having many period features.

Great hall, 3 reception rooms, well-equipped domestic offices, 5 bedrooms and dressing rooms, 3 bathrooms.

Gas central heating.

Main electric light and water.

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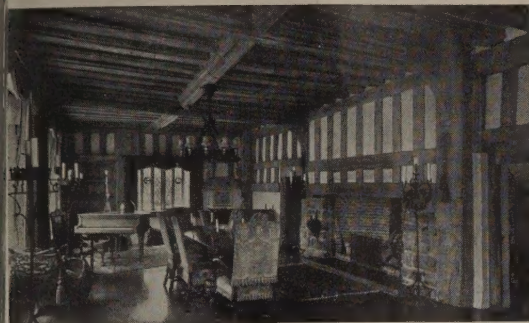
Double garage.

Attractively laid out garden, set of farm buildings, with 56 ACRES let.

IN ALL ABOUT 60½ ACRES

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A FINE GEORGIAN HOUSE

built of Collywestern Stone.

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4 PRINCIPAL BEDROOMS

3 BATHROOMS

STAFF BEDROOMS WITH BATHROOM

Central Heating.

Main water and electricity.



STABLE BLOCK

with 6 Loose Boxes.

DOUBLE GARAGE

3 COTTAGES (1 LET)

Attractive gardens and kitchen garden.

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By direction of Lady Vansittart.

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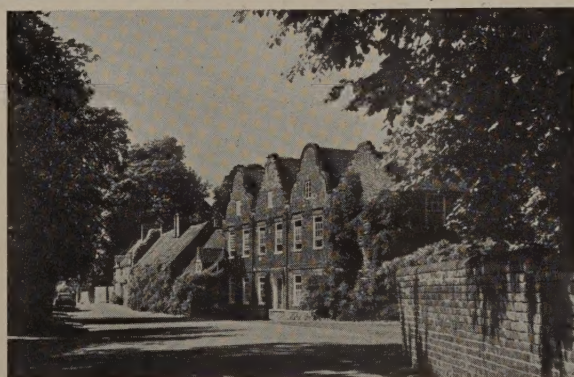
HALL, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS

8 BEDROOMS, 3 BATHROOMS

GOOD DOMESTIC OFFICES

Thermostatically-controlled central heating.

Gas. Main electricity and water.



GARAGE FOR 2 CARS

STUDIO

SUPERB GARDENS

IN ALL 3 ACRES

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1 mile from Tadworth Station, close to Walton Heath Golf Course.
Excellent example of the work of Morley Horder.

Hall, 3 reception rooms, garden room, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Complete central heating.

All main services.

Garage.

Magnificent garden.

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In a particularly attractive position.

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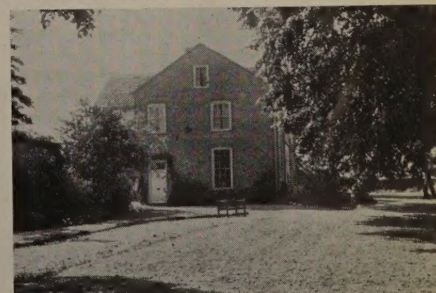
with 3 reception rooms,

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Main electricity and water.

Excellent buildings, ties for 15, large barn, 7 loose boxes. Yards.



Good Modernised Cottage.

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including fine panelling, beams and old paintings.

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Garages and stables with
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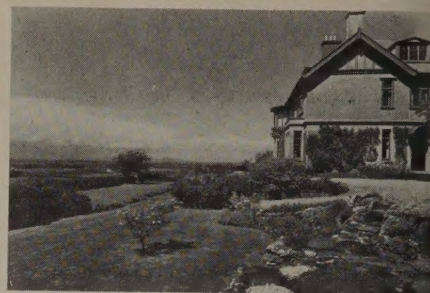
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With magnificent views.



Halls,
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labour-saving offices,
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2 MODERN COTTAGES
Main services.
Lovely grounds,
in all about 2¼ ACRES

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IN A COUNTRIFIED POSITION ON THE EDGE OF A VERY POPULAR VILLAGE

OUTSTANDINGLY PLEASANT COUNTRY HOUSE

WITH 5 BED. AND DRESSING ROOMS, BATHROOM, 3 RECEPTION ROOMS, KITCHEN (ESSE), ETC.

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GOOD OUTBUILDINGS. CHARMING TIMBERED GROUNDS

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London 38 miles.



CHARMING RESIDENCE

part dating from
Georgian period.

STANDING IN DELIGHTFUL
WELL-WOODED GROUNDS
OF 1¼ ACRES

3 RECEPTION ROOMS
5 BEDROOMS
USUAL DOMESTIC OFFICES

ALL MAIN SERVICES

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Swaffham 6 miles. Downham Market 12.

GEORGIAN COUNTRY HOUSE with delightful grounds and frontage
to trout stream.



Lounge hall,
cloakroom,
2 reception,
staff quarters,
7 bedrooms,
2 bathrooms.
Main electricity
and water.
Part central heating.
COTTAGE
Double garage
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Garden, paddock
and wooded grounds of
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A comfortable home or suitable for conversion.

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2 reception,
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2 bathrooms.

Main electricity.

Excellent water supply.

Attractive and
productive gardens,
small orchard and
coppice.

In all about 2 ACRES



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HOUSE in glorious position overlooking Cardigan Bay and mountains. 2 rec.,
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BUNGALOW situated adjoining beach. Brick-built with slated roof. Large lounge,
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AN ATTRACTIVE AGRICULTURAL AND SPORTING PROPERTY

Modernised

Character House
with 2 sitting rooms,
4 bedrooms, 2 attic rooms
and modern bathroom.
Main water and electricity.

GOOD RANGE OF
FARMBUILDINGS

2 COTTAGES

ABOUT 235 ACRES

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PRICE £19,500

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HOUSE OF CHARACTER

within a 20 mile radius of Greenford, in the area between Stoke Poges and Rickmansworth. Fulmer and Seer Green particularly liked.

7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms or 5 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms plus a staff flat or cottage.

Garage for 3 to 4 cars.

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UP TO £20,000

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Reading 2 miles, Paddington 45 minutes. High up with complete seclusion. Far reaching views over the River Thames.

A BEAUTIFULLY APPOINTED MODERN RESIDENCE

with fine period fireplaces. Entrance hall with cloak and w.c., fine lounge hall with galleried landing over, 3 rec., kitchen, maid's sitting room with cloak and w.c. off, 6-7 bed. (3 with basins, h. and c.), 2 bath., 2 w.c.s, billiards room. Main water, electricity and gas. Central heating. Garage block with flat over. Gardens of

2 1/2 ACRES

PRICE £7,950 FREEHOLD

BEAUTIFUL NEWBURY DISTRICT

Really choice position on high ground within 3 miles of Newbury. Commanding charming unspoilt and widespread views southwards across the Kennet Valley.

MODERNISED COUNTRY RESIDENCE

Hall, cloak and w.c., 3 rec., excellent domestic offices with Aga cooker, 6 bed., 2 bath., 2 w.c.s. Main water and electricity. Partial central heating. Double garage. Room suitable for conversion into staff flat. Gardens of

1 ACRE

PRICE £5,950 FREEHOLD

4, ALBANY COURT YARD,
PICCADILLY, W.1.

REGENT 1184 (3 lines)

By order of Trustees of Samuel Hodgkinson, deceased.
LINKSDOWN, STREATLEY



Adjoining golf course. Wonderful views. Attractive Modern Residence. Lounge hall, cloak, 4 rec., offices, 5 bed., a dressing room, 2 bath., w.c. Main water and electricity. Grounds and paddock of 5 ACRES 2 bungalows. Double garage.

FOR SALE PRIVATELY OR BY AUCTION
EARLY IN THE NEW YEAR

GROsvenor
2861

TRESIDDER & CO.

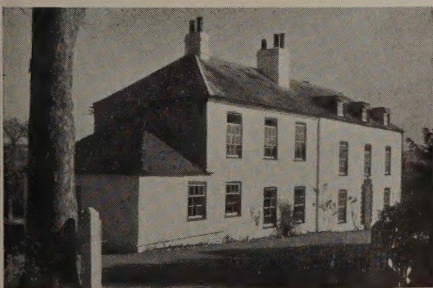
77, SOUTH AUDLEY STREET, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
"Cornishmen (Audley), London"

KENT HILLS

5 1/2 miles Canterbury, on edge of small village with bus service.

A MOST CHARMING GEORGIAN HOUSE



13 1/4 ACRES

TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (18118)

Modernised and in really first-class condition.

Lounge hall,
3 reception rooms,
2 bathrooms,
7 bedrooms.

Full central heating.

Main electricity,
water and gas.

GARAGE

Stabling for 4.

Inexpensive, partly-walled
garden, tennis and other
lawns.

MERSTHAM, SURREY

Glorious position 400 ft. above sea level. Extensive views to south and south-west.

PICTURESQUE MODERN HOUSE OF GREAT CHARACTER

Accommodation all on
2 floors.

5 bedrooms,
3 bathrooms,
2 reception rooms.

Main electricity,
gas and water.

Central heating.

Polished oak floors.

Oak woodwork.

GARAGE

Useful outbuildings.

Easily maintained garden,
with lawns sloping to the
south.



TERRACE. SWIMMING POOL. ORCHARD

IN ALL ABOUT 2 1/2 ACRES

Sole Agents: TRESIDDER & Co., 77, South Audley Street, W.1. (32323)

SLOANE SQUARE, S.W.1, and at
52, CHURCH ROAD, HOVE

WILLIAM WILLETT LTD.

Tel. SLOane 8141
Tel. HOVE 34055

Yachting facilities. OVERLOOKING THE MEDWAY



Beautiful small Queen Anne House in a quiet cul-de-sac at Brompton, Gillingham (hourly service London—40 minutes), thoroughly overhauled, modernised, in perfect order. 2 reception, 4 bedrooms, new wing containing kitchen, bath., small garden. FREEHOLD £3,250

SHOREHAM BEACH

Modern Detached Residence in this popular coastal strip enjoying unobstructed sea views along the coast.

2 reception rooms, ground floor bedroom and cloakroom, kitchen, 2 first floor bedrooms, bathroom and w.c. Garage, small garden.

£5,250 LEASEHOLD

Apply Hove Office.

HOVE

An attractive detached modern residence facing south and only about 5 minutes' level walk from the sea front.

Abundant central heating.

Cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, breakfast room, kitchen, garage, garden,

£6,250

Apply Hove Office.

WANTED

HOVE, or within 20 miles of Hove.

5-bedroomed modern house for Mrs. Pride.

PRICE £8,500 TO £7,500

Also in the same area for Mrs. F., 9-bedroomed house

PRICE TO £10,000

Details to Hove Office.

SUPERB VIEW, NEAR HORSHAM

An attractive house facing south, in beautiful grounds of nearly 6 ACRES, in quiet and unspoiled country but very accessible.



Lounge hall, 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, plus 2 small staff or store rooms, 3 bathrooms, matured garden, grass and woodland

FREEHOLD £9,250

Apply: London Office.

Telephone:
HYDe Park 8222
(20 lines)

HAMPTON & SONS

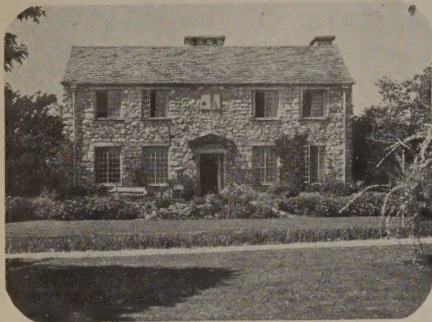
6, ARLINGTON STREET, ST. JAMES'S, S.W.1

Telegrams:
"Selanlet, Piccy
London"

SOUTH DEVON, NEAR TORQUAY

Lovely situation 485 ft. above sea level, with magnificent views of country and Torbay.

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED STONE-BUILT HOUSE OF CHARACTER



Labour-saving and up-to-date. Oil central heating.

5 bed and dressing rooms (3 with wash basins), 2 modern bathrooms, lounge (40 ft. in length), study, kitchen with Aga. Staff room.

Main electric light and water.

Garage for 2 cars.

Attractive, secluded gardens, lawns, flower beds, etc., just under

1 ACRE

PRICE FREEHOLD ONLY £7,250

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (C.69636)

FRESH IN THE MARKET

IN A MOST FAVOURED PART OF ESHER

Occupying a choice situation close to common land and several golf courses.

A MOST ATTRACTIVE MODERN RESIDENCE ON A PICKED SITE

Hall, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms (oak floors), 5 bedrooms with basins, small dressing room, 2 half-tiled bathrooms, staff sitting room and excellent domestic offices.

CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT

Main services.

Detached double garage.

LOVELY GARDENS
easy to maintain, of about
1 ACRE



FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Highly recommended by

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street, St. James's, S.W.1. (S.69243)

A LONDON FLAT WITH A COUNTRY ATMOSPHERE

ENJOYING VIEWS OVER ACRES OF PARKLAND



THE LOUNGE

This DELIGHTFUL MAISONNETTE,
beautifully appointed and decorated.

4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, reception room with gallery dining space, kitchen.

CENTRAL HEATING. Constant hot water.

Lift. Porters.

Low rent £350 per annum inclusive.

Lease about 18 years.

Price £16,000 to include carpets, curtains, etc.

Strongly recommended by

HAMPTON & SONS, 6, Arlington Street,
St. James's, S.W.1.



DINING BALCONY

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH

Centre of east coast yachting world, yet only 90 minutes from Liverpool Street.

SUPERB ARCHITECT-DESIGNED RESIDENCE



In secluded situation.
Hall, magnificent lounge (34 ft. 6 in. by 15 ft.), sitting room, good kitchen, 5-6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main services.

Full central heating.

Double garage.

Feature garden.

WITH 2 OR 10 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

HAMPTON & SONS, 34, South Street, Bishop's Stortford (Tel. 2434),
or as above. (M.68534)

NEAR SAFFRON WALDEN

Ten minutes drive from Audley End station.

DELIGHTFUL 17th-CENTURY BEAMED FARMHOUSE

Large, lofty rooms.

Good condition throughout.

Dining room

(16 ft. by 14 ft.),

lounge (16 ft. square).

2 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.

1/3 ACRE GARDEN



PRICE £3,750 FREEHOLD

Agents: HAMPTON & SONS, 34, South Street, Bishop's Stortford (Tel. 243-4).

PROPERTIES URGENTLY REQUIRED TO PURCHASE

HERTFORDSHIRE OR WEST ESSEX HISTORIC OR CHARACTER RESIDENCE with modern comforts.

3 or 4 reception, 4-7 bedrooms.

2-20 ACRES

COTTAGE AN ASSET

Price no object
(Quote ref. C/84).

WEST SURREY—WEST SUSSEX

Farnham, Haslemere-Pulborough-Midhurst.

GOOD MODERN HOUSE OR HOUSE OF CHARACTER

5-6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception. Double garage.

Main services. Easily maintained grounds.

Good price paid suitable property.

(Quote ref. K9/323)

ESHER

A modern residence of the highest calibre.

£15,000-£20,000 WILL BE PAID

(Quote ref. HS.)

HAMPSHIRE

Within 10-mile radius of Winchester and Petersfield.

Several genuine buyers for a HOUSE of character
with 4-6 bedrooms, 1 or 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms.

Garage. Nice grounds of **1 acre** or more.

PRICES FROM £5,500 TO £10,000

(Quote ref. K10/398.)

KENT—SURREY—SUSSEX BORDERS or MAIDSTONE area.

GOOD QUALITY MODERN OR PERIOD HOUSE
suitable for family. Paddock.

£8,000-£15,000 AVAILABLE

(Quote ref. C/269.)

WEST HERTS

Chorleywood area preferred.

Very well-appointed MODERN HOUSE

with 6-7 bedrooms, 2-3 bathrooms, 3-4 reception rooms.

STAFF FLAT OR COTTAGE

PRICE UP TO £20,000

(Quote ref. TG/22.)

USUAL COMMISSION REQUIRED. Vendors or Principals are invited to send particulars and photographs quoting reference number.

OVERSEAS PROPERTIES APPEAR ON SUPPLEMENT 13

BRANCH OFFICES: WIMBLEDON COMMON; BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS; AND MAYFIELD, SUSSEX

YDE PARK
304

OSBORN & MERCER

ESTABLISHED 1882

28b, ALBEMARLE STREET,
PICCADILLY, W.1

NEAR WEST CORNISH COAST

Originally an old cottage, now restored and added to

In a quiet position 300 ft. above sea level.
2 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.
Mains electricity. Large garage.OR SALE FREEHOLD WITH A SMALL GARDEN
or with up to 25 acres of arable land.

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21694)

SOUTH DEVON

Occupying a superb position with lovely views to the
Dartmoor hills.

A Charming Stone-built Modern House

reception, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, downstairs cloak-
room. Main electricity and water.

Stone-built stable block and garage.

Delightful garden of 1/2 ACRE

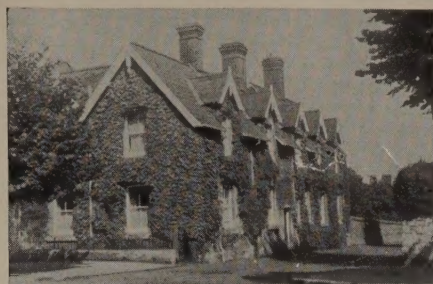
FREEHOLD ONLY £5,000

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21680)

IN THE GRAFTON HUNT

Situate in a small market town near the borders of Northants,
Bucks and Oxon.

An Attractive Brick and Stone Built House



Facing South and West

with 3 reception rooms, 5 bedrooms, dressing room,
2 bathrooms, main services.

Garage and small inexpensive garden.

FREEHOLD ONLY £5,200

Agents: OSBORN & MERCER, as above. (21693)

URGENTLY WANTED FOR SPECIAL
CLIENTS

NO COMMISSION REQUIRED

WINCHESTER OR BASINGSTOKE AREAS,
ALTERNATIVELY BERKSHIRE OR OXON-
BERKS BORDERSGeorgian or Queen Anne House preferred but
would consider other genuine period

No built-up districts but village house liked.

4-6 bedrooms, 2-3 reception, etc. Good garden with a
paddock if possible.

PRICE UP TO £7,500

Reference Col. W.

A Genuine Period House

WITHIN CONVENIENT DAILY REACH OF
BIRMINGHAM, ON THE WEST OR SOUTH-
WEST SIDELikes Redditch-Kidderminster area, Shropshire
(not north of Wellington), or Wores-Warwicks
border.

Minimum of 6 bedrooms, 2-3 reception, etc.

NOT LESS THAN 4 OR 5 ACRES

PRICE UP TO £10,000

Would consider a smaller house with a view to
adding on or conversion.

Reference C.D.

5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1

RALPH PAY & TAYLOR

GROsvenor
1032-33-34

PORLOCK, SOMERSET

In a convenient and accessible position.

EXCELLENT SPORTING FACILITIES

CHARMING EARLY 17th-CENTURY RESIDENCE
in first-class order.3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge hall, dining room, study, modern kitchen with Aga.
Main electricity, water and drainage. Garage. 3 loose boxes. Attractive small garden.

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

SURREY. Close to Walton Heath Golf Course.

High and secluded position. 2 miles station with fast electric service to Victoria.

UNIQUE AND ARTISTIC MODERN RESIDENCE
of attractive design. Luxuriously fitted.Accommodation on 1 floor only. 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, lounge-dining room.
(24 ft. by 20 ft.)GUESTS' COTTAGE, 3 bedrooms, bathroom and 2 reception rooms. Main services.
Garage for 4 cars. Useful buildings. LOVELY GROUNDS. About 3 1/2 ACRES

FREEHOLD FOR SALE

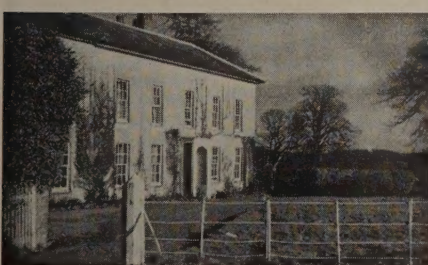


BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS

LONDON OXTED HEREFORD YORK DARLINGTON NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE HEXHAM EDINBURGH

Also CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA and SALISBURY, SOUTHERN RHODESIA

HEREFORD AND RADNOR BORDER

FINE MEDIUM-SIZED HOUSE OF GEORGIAN CHARACTER
in good decorative conditionThe house faces south
with fine views and
contains:3 reception rooms with
some fine plaster ceilings
and Adams-type hob grate.
6 main bedrooms with
2 bathrooms and wing of
3 rooms with bathroom.

Mains electricity.

Modern garages.

The price has just been reduced to only
£5,000 FREEHOLD

Details from

BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, Maylord Street Chambers, Hereford (Tel. 4316).

SUSSEX SQUARE, BRIGHTON

QUIET, CHARMING FLATS

Overlooking private gardens and the sea, with the right to use of gardens.

TOP RESIDENTIAL AREA

TO BE LET UNFURNISHED ON LEASE. NO PREMIUMS

- (1) **GROUND FLOOR FLAT.** Small hall, charming sitting room, kitchen/dining room, double bedroom, bathroom, etc.
- (2) **SECOND FLOOR FLAT.** Good approach. Sitting room, kitchen, double bedroom, bathroom, built-in cupboards.
- (3) **FOURTH FLOOR FLAT.** Sitting room, dining hall, kitchenette, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, etc.
- (4) **SECOND FLOOR MAISONNETTE.** Sitting room, dining room, kitchen, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, boxroom, hot water.

Details and orders to view from BERNARD THORPE & PARTNERS, Rendel Estate
Office, 19, Chesham Road, Brighton (Tel. 680637).

COUNTRY PROPERTIES URGENTLY WANTED

The undermentioned buyers are anxious to find suitable properties
without delay. Replies to West End Office will be treated confidentially
and all properties will be inspected immediately.**LADY H. OF LONDON, N.W.1.** District: In any district NEAR MAIN LINE
STATION to London. Accommodation: 6 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3-4 reception
rooms. LAND 10-100 ACRES. Trout fishing an attraction.**MRS. F. OF MAYFAIR, W.1.** District: MID-SUSSEX. Accommodation: 4/6
bedrooms, 2-3 reception rooms. LAND 1 1/2-3 ACRES. Would consider a
property needing conversion.**MRS. E. B. P. OF HAMPSHIRE.** District: HAMPSHIRE or WILTSHIRE.
Accommodation: 4 or more bedrooms, 2 reception rooms. LAND. Small
Dairy Farm.**MR. P. L. P. OF SUSSEX.** District: Within a 6-mile radius of Tunbridge Wells.
Accommodation: 6-7 bedrooms, 3-4 reception rooms. LAND 5-50 ACRES.**LADY W. OF LONDON, W.8.** District: CHICHESTER or WINCHESTER.
Accommodation: 4-6 bedrooms, must have at least 3 good rooms on the ground
floor. LAND 1-5 ACRES.**MRS. H. S. L. OF SURREY.** District: GOODWOOD or NEIGHBOURING
VILLAGES. Accommodation: 5-6 bedrooms. LAND—maximum of 2 ACRES.**MISS P. H. OF EALING.** District: WEST COUNTRY. Accommodation:
Premises suitable for antiques, teas, etc., and living accommodation of
3-4 bedrooms, 2-3 reception rooms. LAND about 3 ACRES.**HON. K. M. OF LONDON, S.W.1.** District: HAMPSHIRE, WILTSHIRE,
SUSSEX. Accommodation: 4-6 bedrooms, 2-3 reception rooms. LAND
ABOUT 30 ACRES.**MR. N. J. OF LONDON, N.W.2.** District: WITHIN 20 MILES OF LONDON.
Accommodation: 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms. LAND
2 ACRES.**LT.-COL. H. W. L. OF STAFFS.** District: WEST COUNTRY. Accommodation:
6 or more bedrooms, 4 reception rooms. LAND ABOUT 10 ACRES.**MR. P. L. C. OF SUSSEX.** District: WITHIN A FEW MILES OF HORSHAM.
Accommodation: 4-6 bedrooms, 3-4 reception rooms. LAND—not more than
2 ACRES.All the above enquiries are for PERIOD HOUSES, but in most cases good modern
houses of character would be entertained.

USUAL COMMISSION REQUIRED

Head Office: 1, Buckingham Palace Road, Westminster, S.W.1. West End Office: 129, Mount Street, Berkeley Square, Mayfair, W.1 (GRO 6611). Branches at Maylord Chambers, Hereford; St. Helen's Square, York; 25, High Row, Darlington; 30, Market Street, Newcastle upon Tyne; Hexham; 5, Glenfinlas Street, Edinburgh; and Oxted, Surrey.

GROSVENOR 1553
(5 lines)

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS

(ESTABLISHED 1778)
25, MOUNT STREET, GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

13, Hobart Place
Eaton Square
5, West Halkin Street
Belgrave Square
London, S.W.1

SOUTH WEST DEVON

T.T. ATTESTED FARM
140 ACRES

STONE-BUILT FARMHOUSE

5 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, modern kitchen with Aga.

Main electric light and power.
Gravity water supply.

Ample range of excellent buildings with milking parlour.
Well-watered land.

NO TITHE OR LAND TAX
VACANT POSSESSION

FOR SALE FREEHOLD £12,250

PLUS USUAL VALUATIONS

GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1. R.A.W. (C7344)

WEST SURREY

Near beauty spot, 4 miles station (Waterloo about 1 hour).



PERIOD RESIDENCE, part 16th century
4 bed., 3 bath., 2 recep. rooms (one 27 ft. 6 ins. in length).
Main gas, water and electricity. Central heating. Cottage.
Garage. About 1 ACRE. **FOR SALE FREEHOLD**
GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1.
T.G.B. (E1022)

MID-SUSSEX

With views over farmland.

MODERNISED COTTAGE (one of a pair)

4 rooms, kitchen and bathroom (only just modernised with new bathroom and kitchen fittings). Main services. Modern drainage. **ABOUT 1/4 ACRE.** Garage space.

£3,650 FREEHOLD

All further particulars of GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, W.1. T.G.B. (BX2018)

COUNTRY PROPERTY WANTED

In a quiet countryside position principally in NORTH-WEST KENT

Up to 30 miles south-east London.
RESIDENCE OF FIRST-CLASS APPOINTMENTS

10/15 bedrooms, several luxury bathrooms and large reception rooms. In lovely grounds, but of only one-man upkeep. Immediate possession not essential.

USUAL COMMISSION REQUIRED

"Clinic," c/o GEORGE TROLLOPE & SONS, 25, Mount Street, London, W.1.

HILLIER PARKER MAY & ROWDEN

RESIDENTIAL DEPARTMENT

SILCHESTER, HANTS

Attractive village 11 miles from Reading.

MANSION WITH GROUNDS OF SOME 5 ACRES

AT PRESENT RUN AS COUNTRY CLUB

LARGE HALL, 4 RECEPTION ROOMS, BAR
GOOD KITCHEN QUARTERS

14 BEDROOMS, 4 BATHROOMS, COTTAGE, GARAGE and TENNIS COURT

PERMISSION BEING SOUGHT TO DEVELOP LAND

FOR SALE WITH FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND FITTINGS

PRICE £35,000

CROYDON, SURREY

One of the highest positions of Shirley Hill.

ATTRACTIVE BRICK-BUILT RESIDENCE

WITH GARDEN BACKING ON TO WOODLAND

HALL, CLOAKROOM, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS, KITCHEN, SCULLERY,
4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM, GARAGE AND GARDEN. SITE DEPTH SOME
205 FEET

FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

FOR SALE £6,450

Offices: 77, GROSVENOR STREET, LONDON, W.1 (MAYfair 7666), and at 35, CASTLE STREET, EDINBURGH, 2

MAIDENHEAD
SUNNINGDALE

GIDDY & GIDDY

WINDSOR, SLOUGH
GERRARDS CROSS

STOKE POGES

A MODERN HOUSE

Delightfully situated amidst rural surroundings.



3 bedrooms, luxury bathroom, lounge/dining room, breakfast room/kitchen. Garage and useful outbuildings. Park-like grounds.

FREEHOLD £5,250

Sole Agents: GIDDY & GIDDY, 24, Mackenzie Street, Slough (Tel. 23379).

LOVELY VIRGINIA WATER

Pleasantly secluded, convenient for the station and almost adjoining Wentworth golf course.



Beautifully appointed and in first-class order.
6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2-3 reception rooms, cloakroom.
Gas-fired central heating. Integral garage. Attractive gardens and woodland, about 1 1/2 ACRES

ALL REASONABLE OFFERS CONSIDERED
FOR QUICK SALE

GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Sunningdale (Tel. Ascot 73).

MAIDENHEAD—HENLEY—WARGRAVE

High up, adjoining delightful parklands, in a quiet hamlet.



The centre portion of a FINE COUNTRY HOUSE, now divided into 3 separate units. Well proportioned and spacious rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, cloakroom, kitchen. Garage. Gardens adjoining parklands.

FREEHOLD £4,950

GIDDY & GIDDY, Station Approach, Maidenhead (Tel. 53).

ORMISTON, KNIGHT & PAYNE

RINGWOOD, HANTS (Tel. 311)

And at Bournemouth, Brockenhurst, Barton-on-Sea, Highcliffe and Ferndown.

IN THE FAVOURITE VILLAGE OF BURLEY

5 miles Brockenhurst and Ringwood, 14 miles Bournemouth and Southampton.

THIS VERY CHARMING RESIDENCE



Of considerable character and fully modernised with:

Through lounge, dining room, study, cloakroom, 4 bedrooms (h. and c.), dressing room, bathroom and w.c. Compact kitchen and offices.

Main Services.

Partial central heating.

Large double garage and 3 loose boxes with

3-ROOMED COTTAGE attached.

THE HOUSE enjoys a lovely setting facing south over Crown land in parklike grounds of 2 ACRES, including large paddock bordered by a stream.

PRICE £8,750 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents.

R. J. TUCKETT & SON

Chartered Auctioneers and Estate Agents,

TETBURY, GLOS (Tel. 6).

NO COMMISSION REQUIRED FROM VENDOR

WILTS—GLOUCESTER BORDER

GENUINE APPLICANT URGENTLY SEEKING

100-200 ACRE FARM

SUITABLE FOR GRAZING AND STOCK REARING

UP TO £20,000 AVAILABLE

HOUSE OF CHARACTER ESSENTIAL

IMMEDIATE INSPECTION WILL BE MADE

Full details (with photographs if available) to:

R. J. TUCKETT & SON, Tetbury, Glos (Tel. 6), and 25E, High Street, Swindon, Wilts.

5, MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1
GROsvenor
5131 (8 lines)

CURTIS & HENSON

ESTABLISHED 1875

and at
21, HORSEFAIR,
BANBURY, OXON
Tel. 3295-7

SURREY HILLS—LONDON 15 MILES

Croydon 5 miles.

A RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY OF CONSIDERABLE MERIT

Exceptionally well equipped and modernised, and maintained in immaculate condition; **IDEAL FOR LONDON BUSINESS MAN WITH SMALL FAMILY**

Entrance hall, cloakroom, 33-ft. double reception room, modern kitchen, study, 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms.

Main services. Trianco central heating. Double garage block.

Delightful and beautifully laid out garden with flowering shrubs and trees and area suitable for small paddock. **ABOUT 1 1/4 ACRES IN ALL**

PRICE £9,500 FREEHOLD

Agents: CURTIS & HENSON, London.

FOLKESTONE

Premier position adjacent to the Leas, with sea views.

FIRST-CLASS MODERN HOUSE BUILT 1930

Excellently maintained and in exceptional order throughout.

3 fine reception rooms, 4 principal bedrooms and 3 bathrooms (2 en suite to bedrooms), 3 staff rooms (including sitting room) with fourth bathroom.

Central heating throughout. Main services.

Double garage. Very attractive and secluded gardens, mainly walled.

PRICE £16,000 FREEHOLD, OR NEAR OFFER

Joint Agents: SMITH-WOOLLEY & Co., Manor Office, Folkestone (Tel. 51201), and CURTIS & HENSON, London.

STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER

HEAD OFFICE: 41, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1 (GROsvenor 3056)
Chelmsford, Oxford, Lewes, Plymouth, Bülth Wells, Beaulieu, Ipswich, Andover, Newcastle upon Tyne.

WEST SUSSEX COAST

Chichester 7 1/2 miles. In unspoiled rural surroundings.

AN ATTRACTIVE MODERN HOUSE (1937)



Hall, large drawing room, dining space, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

Central heating.

Main electricity and water.

GARAGE

Delightful, easily maintained garden.

ABOUT 3/4 ACRE

PRICE £4,950

An adjoining 1 1/2 ACRES of market-garden land is available if required.

Joint Sole Agents: RICHARD BURGESS, East Wittering, Sussex and STRUTT & PARKER, LOFTS & WARNER, Head Office, as above.

SUFFOLK

Lavenham 2 miles, Bury St. Edmunds 16 miles.

In a pleasant rural position.

A CHARMING SMALL HOUSE



Hall, 2 reception rooms, 3 bedrooms, bathroom.

Main electricity and water.

FARMERY AND

2 GARAGES

Beautiful walled garden with vinery and melon house, paddock, in all

ABOUT 4 ACRES

FOR SALE

Please reply to 11, Museum Street, Ipswich (Tel. 51208).

Estate Offices,
Streatley, Nr. Reading,
Berkshire, Goring 45

MRS. N. C. TUFNELL & PARTNERS

Estate Offices,
Sunninghill, Ascot,
Berkshire.
Ascot 1666 (5 lines)

SUNNINGDALE, BERKSHIRE

London 23 miles.

A MOST DELIGHTFUL MODERN HOUSE



4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, excellent domestic offices. **Main services. Garage. 1/4 ACRE. FREEHOLD. For Sale by AUCTION on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 1960 (unless previously sold by private treaty). Apply: Sunninghill Office.**

HASLEMERE, SURREY

London 41 miles with excellent train service. Situated in a delightful position with extensive views over open country.

A WING OF A WELL BUILT COUNTRY HOUSE

partly converted. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 reception, etc.

Garages.

FREEHOLD £4,000

Apply: Sunninghill Office.

SUNNINGDALE, BERKSHIRE

40-minute train service to London.

A MOST DELIGHTFUL MODERN HOUSE TO BE ERECTED.

3 bedrooms and a dressing room, 2 bathrooms, 2 delightful reception rooms. Excellent domestic offices, maid's room and shower. **Complete oil-fired central heating. Main services. 2-car garage. 1 ACRE**

99-YEAR LEASE. £7,250

Apply: Sunninghill Office.

ALDWORTH, BERKSHIRE

Within easy reach of Reading and London.

A CHARMING PERIOD COTTAGE



High up on the edge of the Downs. 3 bedrooms and a dressing room, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen.

Garage and outbuildings. 3/4 ACRE

FREEHOLD £5,500

Apply: Streatley Office.

THIS AGENCY OPERATES A 24-HOUR TELEPHONE SERVICE

FOREST ROW, SUSSEX
(Near EAST GRINSTEAD)
Tel. FOREST ROW 363 and 364

SUSSEX, adjacent to Ashdown Forest

Perfect setting between East Grinstead and Tunbridge Wells. Superb 17th-CENTURY FARMHOUSE Residence.



In immaculate condition and completely modernised and exceptionally easy to run. Secluded without isolation. Fine mellowed elevation in old brick, part weather tiled and tiled roof. 4 bedrooms, dressing room, bathroom, 26-ft. lounge with inglenook, breakfast/kitchen, scullery, cloakroom. Garages and outbuildings. **16 ACRES. Cottage. Outbuildings. Freehold £12,800**
Apply Forest Row Office. R.439.

POWELL & PARTNER, LTD.

And at Edenbridge (Tel. 2381)
Kent, Caterham (Tel. Upper
Warlingham 3351), Oxted (Tel. 2315)

SUPERIOR

MODERN DETACHED RESIDENCE

15 miles London in lovely country setting.

BEAUTIFULLY FITTED THROUGHOUT WITH NO EXPENSE SPARED



Accommodation: 5 bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, through lounge, dining room, kitchen.

Double garage. 1/3 ACRE

Price £10,750 or offer.

Apply Caterham Office. (R.1933)

KENT

Tunbridge Wells—Maidstone (between).

£6,250. ATTRACTIVE GEORGIAN FARMHOUSE RESIDENCE



Undergoing complete modernisation. 6 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, cloakroom. Detached garage. **2 ACRES. Main electricity and water. Modern drainage.**

POWELL & PARTNER, Oxted (Tel. 2315), Surrey.

23, MOUNT STREET,
GROSVENOR SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

WILSON & CO.

GROSVENOR
1441

BUCKS—delightful Modern House

On high ground close to golf course. 30 minutes London.
Close to Gerrards Cross.



ONLY 20 MILES FROM LONDON

5 bed., 3 bath., 3 reception (one panelled 27 ft. by 18 ft.),
polished oak floors. New electrical heating. Staff annexe
of 2 bed. and bath. 2 garages. Playroom.
Timbered and matured gardens.
FREEHOLD WITH 8 ACRES

WANTED FOR CLIENTS

Ref. Susan.

EASILY RUN MODERN HOUSE

EAST SHEEN, ROEHAMPTON, PUTNEY HILL,
RICHMOND, WIMBLEDON

4 bedrooms would be sufficient, 2/3 reception. Small
garden. Family moving from London flat would like
early possession.

PRICE £7,000-£8,000

Ref. Hunter.

Client having sold his own property requires

PERIOD OR CHARACTER HOUSE

HEYTHROP—COTSWOLD—BICESTER HUNTING
COUNTRY

6 bed., 3 bath., 3 reception. Stables and paddocks.

£10,000 AVAILABLE

Between EGHAM and OLD WINDSOR

In a much favoured village. 40 mins. London. Easy reach
London Airport and close to the river.



A PICTURESQUE CHARACTER HOUSE IN THE TUDOR STYLE

Built of old materials. Views over farmlands to Engle
field and Runnymede. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, fine recep-
tion room (22 ft. by 15 ft.), dining room. Mains. Garage.
Charming gardens with greenhouse.
£6,400 FREEHOLD

16, KING EDWARD
STREET, OXFORD
Tel. 44637 and 44638

JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK

9, MARKET PLACE
CHIPPING NORTON
OXON. Tel. 39

OCCUPYING AN UTTERLY PEACEFUL AND SECLUDED RURAL SETTING, 600 FT. ABOVE SEA LEVEL ON THE BEECH-CLAD CHILTERN HILLS

Great Missenden 3 miles, London 30 miles.

An Attractive, Well-fitted and Admirably Maintained MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE

constructed in 1939, to the design of an
architect, of brick with a pantiled roof, and
occupying a lovely, open, rural position. Of
necessarily strong appeal to country-lovers
(but not to those wishing to live "in a village"),
who yet require to be within speedy daily
access of London. The house contains, briefly,
the following well-proportioned, light and
south-facing rooms, viz., small entrance hall;
cloakroom; dining room; charming drawing
room (the latter two rooms open to a wide,
paved, south terrace); maid's sitting room or
study; pleasant kitchen, equipped with an
abundance of cupboards.



Recommended by JAMES STYLES & WHITLOCK, Oxford Office.

3 bedrooms, one having an adjoining dressing
room and two having fitted basins; modern
bathroom; good roof storage (capable of
conversion to two additional rooms,
if required).

Main electricity and water supplies.

Hot water supply by oil-fired boiler and/or
immersion heater.

Good garage.

Well-stocked gardens, containing many spec-
imen flowering and other trees, mixed orchard-
ing of nearly sixty good-bearing trees, and
an excellent adjoining **6-ACRE Paddock**,
IN ALL, NEARLY 8 ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £6,650

Vacant Possession.

OFFICES ALSO AT RUGBY AND BIRMINGHAM

ASHFORD
(Tel. 25-26)

GEERING & COLYER

TUNBRIDGE WELLS (996-7), KENT, RYE (3155-6), HEATHFIELD (533-4), AND WADHURST (393), SUSSEX

HAWKHURST
(Tel. 3181-3)

ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS

A DIGNIFIED STONE-BUILT REGENCY RESIDENCE IN PRIVATE
PARK, FACING SOUTH



Designed by Decimus Burton, the
noted Regency Architect.

6-8 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM,
LOUNGE, DINING ROOM
BILLIARDS ROOM, CLOAKROOM
EXCELLENT DOMESTIC OFFICES

All mains

Hot water service.

SECLUDED GARDEN AND
DETACHED GARAGE

PRICE FREEHOLD £8,000

(including fixtures and fittings).

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION
Apply: Tunbridge Wells Office.

KENT AND SUSSEX BORDER

Standing high with beautiful views of the lovely countryside, 5 miles ancient Rye.

A DISTINCTIVE MODERN COUNTRY RESIDENCE
designed by the late Sir Reginald Bloomfield.

6 bedrooms (all double),
2 bathrooms, cloakroom,
3 reception rooms, lounge,
hall, excellent offices.

DETACHED MODERN
COTTAGE

(2 bed., bath., 1 sitt.,
kitchenette).

Double garage and other
useful outbuildings.

Delightful grounds in-
cluding croquet lawn and
1½-acre paddock.



IN ALL 21½ ACRES

PRICE FREEHOLD £8,500 WITH VACANT POSSESSION

Apply: Hawkhurst Office.

WESTERN ISLES

THE OUTSTANDING SPORTING ESTATE

comprising THE ENCHANTING HEBRIDEAN ISLANDS of

SOUTH UIST

BENBECULA AND ERISKAY

Extending in all to approximately

**92,000 ACRES OF SPORTING COUNTRY
AND LOCHS**

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY

Further particulars from:

JAMES WILSON & COMPANY

45, HANOVER STREET, EDINBURGH, 2. (CAL 4188.)

Solicitors: Messrs. STEEDMAN, RAMAGE & Co., W.S., 6, Alva Street, Edinburgh.

TAYLER & FLETCHER

STOW-ON-THE-WOLD, GLOS. (Tel. 13 and 92).

NORTH COTSWOLDS

In lovely unspoilt countryside, roughly mid-way between Cheltenham and Broadway

A DESIRABLE AND HEALTHY HILL FARM OF SOME 200 ACRES
the majority of which is at present sound old pasture, with a good water supply

A very fine example of a Cotswold Period Farmhouse-Residence, contains
hall, 2-3 reception, kitchen and offices, 4 bedrooms, bathroom, and additional attic
accommodation.

Main electricity.

USEFUL FARM BUILDINGS, chiefly stone-built and stone-slatted.

For Sale privately now (or by Auction at a later date).

Sole Agents and Auctioneers: TAYLER & FLETCHER, as above.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

In the beautiful North Cotswold village of LOWER SLAUGHTER.

A CHARMING OLD STONE-BUILT HOUSE OF CHARACTER

with lounge-hall, 2 reception, spacious kitchen, 5 bedrooms, bathroom, good attics
Main services. Small well-kept gardens. Garages for 3 cars. Small set of buildings
adaptable to hunter stabling. 2 excellent pasture paddocks. In all about 2½ acres

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH POSSESSION

Sole Agents: TAYLER & FLETCHER, as above.

JOHN D. WOOD & CO.

Unexpectedly in the market.

ON THE BORDERS OF SUSSEX & KENT

AN OUTSTANDING AND UNIQUE XVth CENTURY HOUSE SCHEDULED AS OF ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST

**STANDING IN ATTRACTIVE GROUNDS
WITH VIEWS OF OPEN COUNTRYSIDE**

Hall, dining room, kitchen, cloakroom, particularly fine first-floor drawing room with open minstrels' gallery, 7 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms.

DOUBLE GARAGE. 2 GREENHOUSES



MAIN ELECTRICITY
PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY
SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE
CENTRAL HEATING THROUGHOUT

Pleasant gardens with lawns, rose garden, tennis court, pond, some fine trees.

EXTENDING TO 5 ACRES

Paddock of 3 Acres.

JUST COMPLETELY REDECORATED

Maintained to a very high standard throughout.

For further particulars apply Sole Agents: JOHN D. WOOD & CO. (R.R. 30138)

CORNWALL

Truro 9 miles. St. Austell 7 miles.

STANDING IN AN ELEVATED POSITION WITH FINE VIEWS AND PROTECTED BY WOODLAND

**DELIGHTFUL GEORGIAN-STYLE
COUNTRY HOUSE**

Compact and easy to run.

Lounge hall, panelled drawing room, dining room, study, cloakrooms, well planned kitchen quarters, 3 principal bedrooms, 2 dressing rooms, 2 bathrooms. Nursery wing and staff quarters, each with bathroom.

OIL-FIRED CENTRAL HEATING



FINE RANGE OF OUTBUILDINGS
GARAGES FOR 4 CARS

Charming terraced gardens, well stocked with flowering shrubs. Greenhouse and large loggia. Kitchen garden.

ABOUT 100 ACRES OF WOODLAND WITH
YOUNG PLANTATIONS

Further particulars from: Messrs. KNUCKEY & LUMBY, Truro, and JOHN D. WOOD & CO. (C.M. 73443)

MAYfair 6341
(15 lines)

23, BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W.1

Telegrams:
"Wood, Agents, Wesdo, London"

RUSSELL, BALDWIN & BRIGHT, LTD.

20, KING STREET, HEREFORD (Tel. 4366), also at LEOMINSTER (Tel. 2363), TENBURY WELLS and HAY-ON-WYE

TO LET ON LEASE

NORTH HEREFORDSHIRE

WITH EXTENSIVE VIEWS TO THE SOUTH AND WEST

A VERY WELL SITUATED FREEHOLD PROPERTY COMPRISING

A SUBSTANTIAL HOUSE

CONTAINING: ENTRANCE HALL, 2 RECEPTION ROOMS, 4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM

OIL-FIRED HEATING

DELIGHTFUL GARDEN AND NUMEROUS OUTBUILDINGS

SELF-CONTAINED FLAT WITH HALL, LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN, DINING ROOM, 4 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM

COTTAGE

MAINS ELECTRICITY. GOOD WATER SUPPLY. SEPTIC TANK DRAINAGE

TOGETHER WITH APPROX. 10 ACRES OF LAND

VACANT POSSESSION 1st JANUARY, 1960

Further details from the Agents, 38, South Street, Leominster (Tel. 2363/4), and branches.

SUNNINGDALE
Tel. Ascot 63 and 64

CHANCELLORS & CO.

and at Ascot
Tel. 1 and 2

WINDLESHAM, SURREY

Amidst prettily wooded surroundings, away from all traffic, less than 1/2 mile from village shops. 3 miles Sunningdale.



A CHARMING BUNGALOW RESIDENCE. 4 bedrooms, bathroom, 2 rec. (lounge 21 ft. by 15 ft.), Cloaks. Double garage. Main electricity, water and drainage. Exceedingly pretty garden. About 1 ACRE
FREEHOLD £5,500

Recommended by Agents: CHANCELLORS & Co., as above.

BETWEEN ASCOT AND WINDSOR

On bus route. 26 miles from London.

Compact training establishment successfully run for many years by one of the leading hackney trainers in the country.



DETACHED GEORGIAN COTTAGE. 4 bed., bath., 3 rec. All main services. Stabling for 13 ponies. Garage or horse box. Garden and paddock about 1 1/2 ACRES
FREEHOLD £7,000

Recommended by Agents: CHANCELLORS & Co., as above.

REASONABLY PRICED AT £6,950 FAVOURITE ASCOT AREA

Quiet and pleasant position 1/2 mile station.



Extremely well-appointed House of moderate size on 2 floors. 7 bed., 3 well-appointed bath., 3 rec., fine lounge-hall (26 ft. by 13 ft. 6 ins.), Parquet floors. Central heating. All mains. Garage 3 cars. Secluded garden. 1/2 ACRE
FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Recommended by Agents: CHANCELLORS & Co., as above.

66/68, HAYMARKET
S.W.1

F. L. MERCER & CO.

SPECIALISTS IN THE DISPOSAL OF COUNTRY HOUSES

Telephone:
WHITEHALL 77
(3 lines)

BORDER OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Glorious position on River Dee. 300 yards frontage, but no fishing rights.
SHELTERED AND SECLUDED BUT NOT ISOLATED



Wrexham 6 miles. Easy reach Shrewsbury, Chester, Liverpool. Gracious and luxuriously appointed.

GEORGIAN HOUSE

3 reception rooms, fine kitchen with Aga cooker and Agamatic boiler, 5 double bedrooms (basins), 3 modern bathrooms, planned in suites. Main services. 3 GARAGES. Stables. Lovely grounds and woodland, 4½ ACRES

FOR SALE WITH OR WITHOUT CONTENTS
Sole Agents, as above.

LOVELY PART OF SUFFOLK

Favourite Woodbridge district with excellent golfing and sailing facilities.

BEAUTIFULLY SITUATED COUNTRY HOUSE OF DISTINCTIVE CHARACTER

3 reception rooms, 6 bedrooms (basins), 3 bathrooms. Oil-fired central heating Mains. Agamatic boiler. Garage for 3.

DELIGHTFUL GARDENS AND Paddock
3 ACRES

16th-CENTURY MODERNISED FARMHOUSE

NEAR SUSSEX COAST, 6 MILES RYE

Delightful rural setting off the beaten track amidst lovely unspoiled countryside. 3 reception rooms (one 22 ft. by 15 ft.), 3 double bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 prett attic-type bedrooms on the top floor (one bedroom and bathroom on the ground floor, suitable for invalid). Main electricity.

Very fine garden with ornamental pond, plenty of trees and large field.

OFFERED AT £6,250 WITH 3½ ACRES

Agents: F. L. MERCER & Co., as above.

Established
1759

DREWEATT, WATSON & BARTON

Tel.
1 and 2144-5-

7 miles NEWBURY, 10 miles BASINGSTOKE, 13 miles READING.

A SECLUDED COUNTRY HOUSE IN A VILLAGE

6 bedrooms with fitted basins, 3 bathrooms, 3 reception rooms, Esse cooker, mahogany doors, parquet floors, etc. Attractive gallery hall.

Central heating and main services. Garage and studio. Garden noted for its specimen trees, land and woodland.

6 ACRES £6,750

3½ miles of NEWBURY, adjoining a golf course.

AN ATTRACTIVE SMALL FARMHOUSE

Entirely secluded and on its own.

3 bedrooms, 3 sitting rooms, bathroom, kitchen with Esse cooker, garden room. Main services connected. Large timber and tiled BARN and other sheds. Well-planned garden with trees, small orchard and rough grass.

2 ACRES £4,750

3 miles of market town of NEWBURY.

A SMALL ATTESTED GRASS HOLDING

In quiet pleasant country. A MODERN BRICK AND TILED BUNGALOW with 2 double bedrooms, bathroom, sitting room and good kitchen. Garage. Main electricity and water. Small set of brick BUILDINGS including cowhouse, stables, piggeries, battery house, etc.

12½ ACRES with extra rented. £5,500

BERKSHIRE DOWNS NEARBY. In lovely rural surroundings.

A FULLY MODERNISED OLD RECTORY

With whitened exterior.

3 reception rooms, 2 bathrooms, 5/6 bedrooms. Aga cooking and hot-water supply. Main electricity. Very ample water supply. 3 garages. 13 ACRES with new barn piggeries and buildings providing income from small farming operations.

£7,800 LOW RATES

On high ground between NEWBURY and READING.

A SQUARE GEORGIAN HOUSE

Portico entrance, hall, drawing room (22 ft. 6 ins. by 21 ft.), dining room, 4 double bedrooms, bathroom, cloakroom, kitchen.

Central heating. Main services.

Garden ground (rough) with trees.

£4,750 VACANT POSSESSION

HANTS-BERKS BORDER. Convenient for Newbury and Basingstoke stations.

A MODERN COUNTRY HOUSE

Quietly situated and approached from a by-road. Large reception room (30 ft. by 15 ft.), dining hall, 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, breakfast room, kitchen, etc.

Full central heating and main services.

Double garage. Garden, lawns and woodland, about 5½ ACRES
£6,800. ADDITIONAL 2-ACRE MODERN POULTRY AND PIG UNIT IF REQUIRED

BOURNEMOUTH
AND 12 BRANCH OFFICES

RUMSEY & RUMSEY

AND IN THE
CHANNEL ISLANDS

NEW FOREST BORDER

Bournemouth 13 miles, Christchurch 8.



Quaint old-world Cottage Residence, enjoying perfect seclusion and standing in grounds of 1½ ACRES. Entrance hall, dining room, lounge, study, garden room, kitchen with Aga cooker, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Complete central heating. Outbuildings. Paddock.

PRICE £5,750 FREEHOLD

CERNE ABBAS, DORSET

Dorchester 8 miles, Sherborne 11 miles.

Situated amidst picturesque surroundings in the heart of the village. The whole property has recently been completely modernised. Large entrance lounge, dining room, well-fitted kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom. Small rear garden.

GARAGE SPACE

PRICE £3,400 FREEHOLD

CHRISTCHURCH HARBOUR 2½ Miles

CHARMING POST-WAR

ARCHITECT-DESIGNED RESIDENCE

Situated in pleasant rural setting within 3 miles of Christchurch. Large hall with cloakroom, through lounge, dining room, well-equipped kitchen, 4 bedrooms, half-tiled bathroom.

CENTRAL HEATING

Garage and easily maintained garden.

PRICE £5,200 FREEHOLD

LONG BREDY—DORSET

Bridport 8 miles, Dorchester 9 miles.



Charming modernised Cottage Residence, enjoying delightful rural surroundings and occupying 2 pleasant sheltered position in the centre of the village. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, dining room, well-equipped kitchen. Main water and electricity. Charming walled garden.

PRICE £3,950

Further details of the above may be obtained from Head Office, 111, Old Christchurch Road, Bournemouth. Tel. 21212.

MOLDRAM, CLARKE & EDGLEY

Chartered Surveyors

155-6, HIGH STREET, GUILDFORD, AND AT WOKING

SHAMLEY GREEN, near GUILDFORD

In a delightful rural position just off the green of this favourite Surrey Village.

A CHARMING PERIOD COTTAGE

STANDING IN OLD-WORLD GARDEN OF 1½ ACRES

The accommodation at present arranged as TWO COTTAGES, but easily convertible into one, is as follows:

No. 1: 2 SITTING ROOMS, KITCHEN, BATHROOM, 2 BEDROOMS

No. 2: LIVING ROOM, KITCHEN, 3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM. GARAGE

All main services.

£7,000 FREEHOLD

CLEMENTS & PARTNER

53 BELL STREET, REIGATE, SURREY.

Telephone: REIGATE 4401

£5,600-£6,750 FREEHOLD

SUSSEX

(41 MILES LONDON)

A SKILFUL BLEND OF TRADITIONAL MATERIALS AND CONTEMPORARY DESIGN IN DIFFERENT STYLES OF 3- AND 4-BEDROOM HOUSES A

BILLINGSHURST

Full details from Sole Agents:

CLEMENTS & PARTNER

53 BELL STREET, REIGATE, SURREY

Tel. REIGATE 4401/2/3

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 e, Harrods, London"

HARRODS
 32, 34 and 36, HANS CRESCENT, LONDON, S.W.1

OFFICES

West Byfleet
 Haslemere and Berkhamsted

13 MILES SOUTH OF TOWN

Woodland setting, 400 ft. up, adjoining and with private gateway to Addington golf course. Convenient main-line station.

MAGNIFICENT MODERN RESIDENCE OF CHARACTER



Lounge-hall, cloakroom, 2 reception rooms, music room 32 ft. by 19 ft. 9 in., 4 principal bedrooms, dressing room, 2 bathrooms, separate flat, 2 bedrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen and bathroom.

Main services.

Partial central heating.

GARAGE (2/3)

Secluded inexpensive gardens, part woodland, in all ABOUT 1 1/4 ACRES

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

Sole Agents:

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENSington 1490. Extn. 828.

RURAL HERTS

Quiet and secluded position in village 7 miles south of Royston and 12 miles West of Bishop's Stortford. Hunting with the Puckeridge. Good shooting district.

FASCINATING TUDOR COTTAGE



Skilfully enlarged and modernised in exquisite taste and immaculate condition.

2 reception rooms (one 22 ft. 4 ins. by 15 ft. 8 ins.), 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, model kitchen with dining alcove, etc.

SEVERAL THOUSANDS SPENT ON ALTERATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS

Main electricity and water. Cesspool drainage.

DOUBLE GARAGE. HARD TENNIS COURT. ABOUT 1/2 ACRE

FOR SALE FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENSington 1490, Extn. 809-810.

BUCKS—Nr. PRINCES RISBOROUGH

A POST-WAR HOUSE OF HIGH QUALITY

South aspect facing open farming country.



£6,500 FREEHOLD

HARRODS LTD., 112, High Street, Berkhamsted (666) or 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. KENSington 1490. Extn. 810.

LUXURY BUNGALOW

On high ground in Sussex. Close to golf course, bus route and shops, yet on the fringe of the Ashdown Forest.

AN ARCHITECT-DESIGNED DETACHED BUNGALOW



ONLY £4,650 FREEHOLD

Sole Agents: HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENSington 1490, Extn. 807.

Of attractive elevation with well-proportioned rooms, beautifully fitted.

Hall, spacious lounge/dining room, conservatory, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, separate w.c., well-fitted kitchen.

Part central heating.

Main services.

Brick-built store.

Garage space (run-in laid). Pleasant garden, about 3/4 ACRE

150-ft. frontage, woodland surround.

SUPERBLY APPOINTED BUNGALOW

SUSSEX COAST. UNINTERRUPTED SEA VIEWS

Choice corner position. Almost direct access to the beach. Fast electric and diesel train service to Victoria or the City.

A unique Property,

only completed about 18 months ago of the best quality materials and fittings. FULL CENTRAL HEATING and other attractive features. Entrance hall, cloak., beautiful lounge, dining room, sun lounge, 2 bedrooms, 3rd bedroom or study, bathroom. Well-planned and finely equipped kitchen.

Main services.

Detached garage. Compact and easily maintained gardens.



Also VALUABLE BUILDING PLOT overlooking the sea and having frontage of about 75 feet.

FOR SALE FREEHOLD WITH OR WITHOUT PLOT

Inspected and recommended by:
 HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENSington 1490 Extn. 810.

LEATHERHEAD AND GUILDFORD

10 mins. station. Quiet and unspoilt surroundings.

A VERITABLE SHOW HOUSE IN IMMACULATE ORDER

Designed on labour saving lines, built and fitted regardless of cost (11-in. cavity walls).

OIL-FIRED CENTRAL HEATING

polished wood block floors, built-in wardrobes. Luxury kitchen. 2 double and 1 single bedrooms, combined lounge/dining room, 33 ft. by 14 ft. Tiled bathroom (basin, h. and c.) and shower recess).

LARGE GARAGE

All Co's. mains.



Attractive garden 5/8 ACRE (landscape designed) lawns, rose and flower beds, flowering shrubs, kitchen garden, heated greenhouse, etc.

FREEHOLD £8,750

Inspected and most highly recommended as something really good and quite out of the ordinary.

HARRODS LTD., 32, 34 and 36 Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1.
 KENSington 1490. Extn. 806.

HERTS—NEAR BERKHAMSTED

In a small hamlet.

A SUSSEX STYLE DETACHED COTTAGE BUILT 1939

under a Mansard roof and standing back from a quiet lane.

3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM. 2 RECEPTION ROOMS

Main electric light, power, water.

Cesspool drainage.

GARAGE

1/4 ACRE



£4,750

HARRODS LTD., 112, High Street, Berkhamsted (666) or 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. KENSington 1490. Extn. 809.

HERTS—TRING

A DETACHED HOUSE BUILT ABOUT 1957

In a quiet position with views over the town.

3 BEDROOMS, BATHROOM. 2 RECEPTION ROOMS

Part central heating.

All main services except gas.

GARAGE

1/4 ACRE



£3,750

HARRODS LTD., 112, High Street, Berkhamsted (666) or 32, 34 and 36, Hans Crescent, Knightsbridge, S.W.1. KENSington 1490. Extn. 810.

BOURNEMOUTH
POOLE
RINGWOOD

FOX & SONS

ESTABLISHED 1868

SOUTHAMPTON
BRIGHTON
WORTHING

SEAFORD, SUSSEX

In delightful residential neighbourhood accessible to the sea and downs and convenient for daily train service to London.

CHARMING REPRODUCTION TUDOR-STYLE RESIDENCE



6 bedrooms (2 h. and c.),
2 bathrooms, panelled
lounge about 22 ft. by
16 ft., spacious panelled
dining room and lounge
hall, cloakroom and well-
fitted kitchen.

DETACHED GARAGE
and attractive gardens
extending to almost
 $\frac{1}{2}$ ACRE

OFFERS INVITED

Fox & Sons, 117 and 118, Western Road, Brighton.
Tel. Hove 39201 (7 lines).

CLOSE ITCHEN VALLEY

Situated on the outskirts of a small village, equidistant between Winchester and Petersfield.

OLD WORLD COTTAGE RESIDENCE

Occupying main road
position, recently
modernised but with
many original
features.

3 bedrooms
bathroom,
2 reception rooms,
kitchen with Aga.

GARAGE FOR 2 CARS

PARTLY WALLED
GARDEN



PRICE £3,850 FREEHOLD

Fox & Sons, 32-34, London Road, Southampton.
Tel. 25155 (7 lines).

BEAUTIFUL ISLE OF PURBECK

In delightful rural surroundings about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from old world market town.

MOST ATTRACTIVE ARCHITECT-DESIGNED SMALL COUNTRY RESIDENCE in immaculate order throughout.



5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, lounge 22 ft. by 17 ft. 6 in.,
L-shaped dining room/study, 26 ft. 10 in. by 16 ft. by
12 ft. wide, kitchen/breakfast room, cloaks, entrance hall,
flower room. Garage.

Central heating, main electricity and water.

Extensive grounds, orchard and heathland about

5 ACRES

PRICE £8,650 FREEHOLD

Fox & Sons, 44-52, Old Christchurch Road,
Bournemouth. Tel. 24242.

HAMPSHIRE COAST

*Almost adjacent to 18-hole golf course—close to New Forest.
11 miles Bournemouth.*

A UNIQUE COTTAGE RESIDENCE in delightful secluded setting in excellent residential locality.



3-4 BEDROOMS, 2 BATHROOMS, 3 RECEPTION
ROOMS, KITCHEN. GARAGE. *Main services.*

Partly Walled Garden of $\frac{3}{4}$ -ACRE

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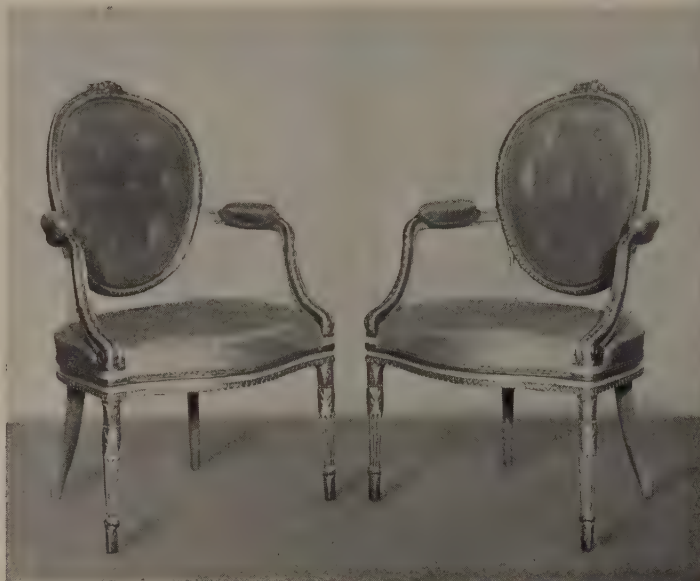


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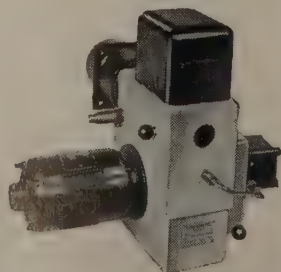
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Bank Chambers, Dorchester, Dorset



Executive returning from £1m. conference

He has earned his holiday. He *needs* the relaxation of Union-Castle travel home. No 'Executivitis' for him! In the second week, perhaps he will open his brief case and dictate a report or two to one of the ship's stenographers. But just now he is letting the sun coax the tensions out of his joints. And, after those Conference weeks of

alternate sandwiches and banquets, he is letting Union-Castle chefs coax blissful sanity back to his digestion. He is *not* looking forward to wearing a stiff collar again. But when he does get his sun-tanned knees in their City trousers under a City desk again, he will romp through his work at a good rate of knots. *Mare*, as the doctors say, *nostrum*.

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COUNTRY LIFE

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DECEMBER 17, 1959



Pearl Freeman

MISS SALLY HEYWOOD

Miss Sally Heywood, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Heywood, of Manor Farm House, Ingoldisthorpe, Norfolk, is to be married to Mr. James Aldous, eldest son of Mr. Guy Aldous, Q.C., and Mrs. Aldous, of Freston House, Ipswich, Suffolk, on April 2

COUNTRY LIFE

EDITORIAL OFFICES:

2-10 TAVISTOCK STREET
COVENT GARDEN
W.C.2

Telephone, Covent Garden 2692
Telegrams, Country Life, London

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SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS

“TO create a climate in which artists and the arts can flourish” is the aim that a government must set itself. That is the theme of the Bow Group’s survey *Patronage and the Arts*, published by the Conservative Political Centre at 4s. 6d., and it indicates both the general direction of suggested policy and its practical limitations. For the difficulty in formulating a Conservative policy for the arts is to reconcile the obvious necessity for more and greater official patronage, in this age of high taxation and mass entertainment, with the party’s belief in individual enterprise. The Bow Group’s survey seeks to solve this theoretical contradiction by applying generally and specifically the principle of “personal responsibility through collective support,” the meaning of which emerges as the idea is developed. That clear conclusions are not always reached is not necessarily a valid criticism; rather it can be taken as confirming the honesty of the survey’s approach to a complex of problems all of which cannot have cut-and-dried solutions but need to be faced empirically according to the “climate” that aesthetic taste and creativeness have created at any given time.

The survey is clear, however, in distinguishing between “preservation of the arts,” where the burden of support must fall increasingly on the State, and patronage of the living arts, which, it believes, ought to be as widely spread and individual as possible. Under the heading of preservation comes, first, improving the buildings of the national and provincial collections—the latter by creating an emergency fund administered by the Standing Commission on Museums and Galleries on a pound-for-pound basis with local authorities; and, second, increasing the total level of State patronage through the Arts Council and the British Council. The former’s grant, it is said, should be not less than a £1 million a year, exclusive of its two major responsibilities. Of these, it is proposed that the freehold of Covent Garden Theatre should be acquired by the State, with grant to opera of not less than £500,000; and the National Theatre be built without further delay with the money already voted and be regularly subsidised. Local authorities should be assisted, both by revision of existing legislation and financially, to build, renovate and ensure the full use of entertainment centres in the light of the Arts Council’s forthcoming recommendations on housing the arts and especially by means of Civic Arts Trusts and Festivals. In this long and well-considered section emphasis is also laid on the importance of exempting from rates societies devoted to science, literature and the fine arts.

In what is termed the personal collective aspect of patronage the survey urges

encouragement of the support of the arts by business companies through clarification of the tax regulations on such expenditure, and by the novel expedient of an Arts Bureau to provide “a two-way channel of communication between the arts and business.” Such a secretariat, analogous to the Arts Council and the Council of Industrial Design, would inform companies seeking a subject for patronage of artistic activities deserving it, and of artists, sculptors, or architects when required, as an example, for undertakings intended to confer prestige. The Bureau could also lead fund-raising campaigns for national projects, and conduct a bulletin publicising the achievements and needs of the arts in all fields, not only the commercial, with which collective support is concerned. Though probably requiring to be started by the State, the Bureau should support itself, appropriately in connection with the Federation of British Industries. This is a constructive proposal, meriting serious consideration. Criticisms of it can be made, as they are of the similarly constituted Civic Trust; but the most obvious, regarding selections made for patronage, could be obviated through working with artists’ organisations.

WINTER AFTERNOON

*PEELED-CHESTNUT cattle in their byre
Lift bored white faces to the rails;
Smoke climbs thinly from a fire;
Dykes ooze mist which dumbly trails*

*Across the pastures. In its tides
Bush and hedgerow drown, are lost;
For a time a cottage rides
Half submerged. A distant ghost*

*Beckons dimly where an oak
Points a black and leafless bough.
Daylight fades . . . but rooks still flock
To strut the earth turned by the plough.*

BRIAN HILL

DALLYING ON THE COMMON

AFTER what many people consider an unconscionable delay, the report of the Royal Commission on Common Land, which was published in July, 1958, received its first Parliamentary discussion in the House of Lords ten days ago. Even then the matter was not brought forward by the Government, but was raised on the initiative of Viscount Gage. After an instructive debate the Joint Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture, Earl Waldegrave, offered the assurance that “though the Government are not yet ready to submit concrete proposals . . . they are pressing ahead urgently with a detailed study of the report . . . and with the widespread consultations which are so necessary in a matter so complex and far-reaching.” Despite the reference to “pressing ahead urgently,” the ministerial statement is disappointing. As Lord Gage remarked, it is non-committal. Not even an approximate date for submission of legislation was vouchsafed. While admittedly there are many interesting points involved and consultations are essential, the fact remains that the report was in the Government’s hands nearly 18 months ago. It is difficult to see why the process of consultation could not have been complete by now. Because common lands are an institution older than Parliament, and parts of the law affecting them have been obsolete for centuries, it may be natural to drift along with the thought that a delay of a few more years is neither here nor there. But reform has become a matter of immediate concern because there was never a time when pressure on land was greater than it is now.

ACTION ON POLLUTED ESTUARIES

IT is a heartening fact that the subject of river pollution appeared in the election manifestos of both the major political parties at the recent General Election, and still more heartening is the prospect that there may be no appreciable interval between promise and some measure of performance. Having been fortunate in the ballot for Private Members’ Bills, Mr. James Ramsden is trying to redeem his party’s

pledge with his Clean Rivers (Estuary and Tidal Waters) Bill, now awaiting the Committee stage. As the chief sponsor of the measure Mr. Ramsden has explained that, because of complete cleansing of our rivers after a century of neglect will not be quickly accomplished, concern is to see that the position does not meantime deteriorate further. His Bill aims bringing river estuaries within the control of the river boards to which the non-tidal waters are subject, in order to check new sources of pollution at the estuaries. The Government, while sympathetic, considers that the measure is drawn in terms so wide as to give river boards the control of coastal waters unaffected by a river, and to bring under its provisions harbours and ports that have individual problems, as also local authorities that may not wish to be brought within its terms. It is to be hoped that in meeting this criticism, supporters of the Bill will not sacrifice any of the essentials of the measure. In the past murmurs have been heard from public health authorities of too much complacency at ministerial level towards the risks to health from polluted waters. The enthusiastic support that Mr. Ramsden’s Bill received from all sides in the Second-reading debate augurs well for its passage through the Committee stage.

AN OPEN WIMBLEDON?

FOR the ordinary lawn-tennis enthusiast, who plays the game because he likes it, or who watches it from the stands or on television, the proposals of the committee set up to study amateurism and open championships will hardly, at first sight, have clarified the situation. To the present division of the lawn-tennis world into professionals and amateurs—some of whom may sometimes be considered as shama-teurs—it proposes to add yet another class, the “authorised player,” who will be allowed certain financial considerations and “will be expected to place himself at the disposal of his national association for national and international events.” Against the disadvantage of making confusion worse confounded, in the minds of the general public, by introducing the new “authorised” class must be set the possible gain of restoring to the genuine amateur the prestige still attached to that word in some other athletic activities. The committee also recommends that the eight I.L.T.F. championships—Wimbledon is one of them—might be opened to all three classes. The prospect of an open Wimbledon is exciting and would settle some long-standing arguments about standards of professional and amateur play. Until, however, the I.L.T.F. decides whether to accept its committee’s recommendations, such a prospect must remain in the realms of speculation, as must the question of whether the professionals would think it worth their while to take part even if they were asked.

STREETS WITHOUT NAMES

A VALUABLE public service, which will benefit pedestrians as much as motorists has been rendered by the Automobile Association in its recent survey of street name-plates. After examining some of the urban street corners along selected class-A routes in London, Edinburgh, Glasgow and Birmingham among major cities, and in smaller centres such as Cambridge and Bath, it has come to the sad conclusion that “street name-plates in most parts of the country are for all practical purposes valueless to drivers as a means of finding their way.” The survey, limited to 100 miles of road in all, has found 365 name-plates missing and another 126 ill-sited or in need of renovation. Of places that come out particularly badly, Bristol is mentioned as having 36 plates missing in one seven-mile stretch, and Salisbury 23 missing in two miles of road. These are unhappy examples of the kind of gradual falling into slovenly standards that is liable to beset local authorities until some organisation or group with the necessary weight—and access to publicity—calls attention to the problem. Street name-plates, in their siting, legibility and grace of lettering, should be regarded as one of the badges of good local government. Their absence or invisibility is a sign, apparent to all, of local failure.



J. Norman Bennett

AUTUMN SNOW ON SKIDDAW, IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

A COUNTRYMAN'S NOTES

By **IAN NIALL**

For all the flies I have tied had risen only one trout each, my days would have been filled with delight, but this isn't in the nature of things. Most of the flies I have made were experimental. I began by imitating the experts. Hereafter I imitated the natural. When I had fished a while at this I used my imagination. Sometimes my imagination got the better of me; sometimes, although very rarely, it got the better of trout.

I pride myself on being able to tie a beetle that takes a fish whenever there is a little break in sunlight through the clouds. I have the power when fish are feeding on the surface of the lake and they are not already gorged with flies before I set mine before them. I have my fly, like everyone else who ties his own. I have my fads, too. Some things I cannot believe in, but that is all there is to be said, but of one thing I am certain: a man is not a complete fisherman until he takes to tying his own flies, until he can throw the book away and find his own way for himself, forgetting all the experts who ever wrote books or attempted to produce a rubric.

I need hardly say that I have been flying. It is the first chance I have had since last winter. Between whiles I have fished once or twice and toiled a lot. I have had my dreams and my disappointments. Recalling last season, down to having caught one good trout, and it isn't very long because I had to bring it in and get my fingers in its gills before the hook was loose. I had no net. The amateur fly-tier begins to tie flies that look like those in the catalogues. They are conventional patterns made with varying degrees of skill. They please the eye; sometimes they please the fish. They often please the second, third and fourth fish better than the first because by then they have been mutilated and chewed, and look less like a man's idea of a trout fly. The rough, chewed-up fly resembles, perhaps, some underwater insect, a nymph, a beetle or a bug, but the angler is

unaware of this. He thanks his stars and fishes on. I have tried this branch of the art, tying nymphs. I have used rubber nymphs made from realistic models, but the trout seemed to have no enthusiasm for what pleases the salesman's eye. The nymphs I made from feather and fur never seemed to move very well in the water, and I gave up trying them in despair.

* * *

MY winter sessions of fly-tying are confined to making beetles. There isn't much about a beetle that my clumsy hand cannot manage. I make wing-cases from pheasant feathers of different hues. Bodies are made of herl and only rarely of other materials. A touch of gold tinsel is my only fad. The hackles vary, of course, from furnace to black, and once in a while I use a green feather from a mallard drake's head because I think it has the necessary iridescent sheen to make it resemble the green tint of a certain beetle's wing-case.

Dry flies are a simple matter, too. I catch fish, whatever fly sails upon the lake, with a

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*Owing to distribution problems caused by the Christmas holiday, next week's issue of COUNTRY LIFE will be published on Tuesday instead of on Thursday.*

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black fly, because the dry fly is at its best in sunshine and any fly looks black against a bright sky. All it needs to do is to ride well on the surface of the water. A March Brown isn't black. The Lake Olives are dark in hue, but even if their wings seem white in the sunlight I am convinced that the fish sees only a black silhouette. I may be wrong. It is, I suppose, as always, a matter of faith. The flies I have been tying are to stock my box for the real business of

catching trout next year, and whatever fancy efforts I put into my box between now and then I expect to take my fish with the lures that have served me year after year, even if they do nothing for my nearest neighbour.

* * *

A FRIEND called to see me, and we strolled up to look over the kitchen garden and enjoy the view. While we were doing so a cock pheasant rose and sailed from the edge of our ground down through the adjoining property, and my friend remarked that he had been driving his car one day when he had come upon two cock pheasants indulging in a fight right in the middle of the road. So intent on their battle were they that neither paid the slightest attention to the car. My friend came to a standstill and waited. The fight, with much posturing and many mock attacks, went on and on. At length he decided that he could no longer be obstructed and opening the door of his car, slammed it to again. The pheasants broke off and departed, one to either side of the road, where they entered the brush and disappeared.

Such preoccupation rarely takes birds and animals unless they are enraged with a rival. I remember something of the sort happening to me when I was out shooting. A pair of stoats began to fight at the bottom of a drystone wall. They were not playing but intent upon doing each other serious injury and after a minute or two they began to run round me in a circle. This continued until I seemed to see nothing but a blur. The circle decreased. Soon, I thought, they would be running round my feet, and then one might take refuge up a leg of my trousers. I dispelled the unpleasant thought by shooting both of them with one shot.

Among birds I always think jackdaws must be hot-blooded in a fight, for they are always most reluctant to break off once combat has been joined. Scores of times I have seen them,

locked together, tumbling off roofs, out of trees and even down the cliff face to the ground beneath, still fighting for all they were worth. When I think of it they seem to be the most aggressive birds I know, unless one counts the coots, and they of course take the palm. I have been fishing and watched one of the coot tribe persecuting a neighbour in the most brutal fashion, until I might have killed one or both with a stick.

Some of the smaller ducks, too, are prone to blood-lust. I remember seeing two fighting on a stream in Scotland once and going right through a water-wheel and down a sluice, where they were washed on, apparently dead. Cock pheasants, of course, challenge their rivals to come and fight as blackcocks do. I have watched blackcocks at this game. Neither they nor pheasants have the same determination to inflict damage that an angry jackdaw has, but the jackdaw's fights are not, I think, connected with mating or courtship.

A READER writes to me about his way with the warble fly. I have always had sympathy for the poor beast of the field that suffers from this pest. It is one of the vicious parasites that infest cattle in many parts of the country, and, perhaps, a farmer or two, or the humble owner of a single milking cow, might like to read what my correspondent has to say on the subject. I am no expert on the diet of cows. All I know is that sometimes shippens are fitted with devices for giving the standing-in cows a little salt with their silage, and that the mineral traces in the salt licks are said to improve the fertility of cows. I have a soft spot for the creature that provides the milk for my tea, the cream for my porridge. There is no more soulful beast than a gentle Jersey cow.

"I have farmed for many years in Nottinghamshire and Essex," says the writer, "and from boyhood the frenzied gallops of snorting cattle, with tails erect but curled at the tip, in the throes of boring warble nymphs have

interested and distressed me. The varcures which deal with the nymph stage, such as derris root, I have found to be useless because they are too late, but by tackling warble *ab ovo* I have got the better of them simply providing adequate salt licks in every field from start to finish. Haphazard replenishments are useless for preventing the warble fly from entering the animal's system. Salt must be in the system all the time as a preventive. An adequate ration of salt must be given with every feed when the cattle are in the yards. The object is to keep sufficient salt in the animal's system at all times to destroy the life cycle of the warble fly at the egg stage from which it emerges, if undeterred, through the hide of the wretched beast. For 20 years I have had no warble fly trouble or case of salt poisoning.

For my part I wonder how many countrymen think of the painful condition of those poor creatures they often see running about the meadows when the warble fly is at work.

THE MAGIC OF THE MALVERNS

By GEOFFREY GRIGSON



LOOKING TOWARDS THE MALVERN HILLS, ON THE WORCESTERSHIRE-HEREFORDSHIRE BORDER, ACROSS THE SEVERN VALE FROM CLEEVE HILL, GLOUCESTERSHIRE. The Malverns have recently been declared an area of outstanding natural beauty.

SOMETIMES after a journey in France I return and wonder why we make so much fuss about the scenic peculiarities of England. If we have St. Michael's Mount, France has Mont St. Michel. If we have Cheddar Gorge or Gordale Scar, France has limestone gorges into each of which you could fit a dozen Cheddars or Gordales. And so on, *ad infinitum*.

But I except the Malverns, that island of ancient rocks, now, by an order under the National Parks Act, to be afforded the privileges of an area of outstanding natural beauty. The Malverns are not big, they are not long, they are not wide; but they have struck the imagination of the English for the best part of a thousand years.

How do you measure natural beauty? It is a queer business, if you start analysing it, with more exceptions and contradictions than rules or easy definitions; it is a matter—true especially of the Malverns—of relation and emotion. That being so, have you ever asked yourself the exact nature of a *hill*? Ever considered that a hill—or the attraction of an attractive hill—is more than itself, more than its cubic solidity and its altitude? In effect, in attraction, a hill is itself-from-a-distance; is something which depends on approach, on the nature of the land around the hill.

If I say that the eight miles or so of the Malverns are a crumple of ancient hard rocks,



THE AREA (INSIDE HEAVY LINE) DESIGNATED UNDER THE NATIONAL PARKS ACT

raised by the pressure of the emergent mountains of Wales, I have still said nothing scenic. There are plenty of crumples, plenty of ridges (in Shropshire, for example), but they are not the Malverns. Add the approach. Add the plain, east of the Malverns, the Sever only a few miles to the east winding through a flatland extent from Worcester to the south. Add the view of the Malverns to the view from the Malverns; add relation and approach, and there is a chance of beginning to understand, instead of merely feeling, the attraction.

One day this autumn, I drove from Tewkesbury across the Severn to Ledbury. Along this A 438 the Malverns—I was expecting the azure bulk at any moment—do not immediately come into view. A rise, a dip, a corner, another corner—and there they were, over the hedge; and against their blue spread an orange tree, still crowded with brownish-pink leaves. Across a wide arc of the Severn country from Worcester down towards Gloucester, this raised island of the Malvern Hills is for ever making sudden long and strong, intensely blue appearance, expected, yet none the less surprising; much a fact of life in these parts as the sudden noticing of the evening star. And there will be contrasts—quite extraordinary ones—of colour. Leaf-brown against the blue or violet (which changes to purple) is only one. Another is the acid green of foreground meadows against the



THE MALVERN HILLS, SEEN FROM THE HEREFORDSHIRE (WEST) SIDE. "On the Herefordshire side you see—even now—the ghost of a forest, or of coverts for deer"

Malverns—green against violet; or the red of a roughed field of the old red sandstone against blue or the violet; or a combination, violet, green and red, all together.

On a nearer view (for example, along that line A 438 from Tewkesbury to Ledbury, where it begins to rise between the two Malvern summits of Hollybush and Midsummer Hill) the Malverns appear to rise out of the country before you in a way which at once differentiates them. The line below rises into hill—or line of hills—above; yet the long muscular line does appear to have been broken through, and then to lie strong and clear above the normal world; so that these hills also have a peculiar and special relation to the sky. They are in the sky, like narrow mountains. The light of the sky above them looks different, more brilliant, more extensively clear and clear, less aerial, as if it were taking the place of air; and all such appearances begin to respond to states of mind, or to encourage special states.

I especially recommend the northward view from A 438, just where it rises to a green plateau—the view from the modern roadside arch below those two National Trust summits of Hollybush and Midsummer Hill. The most prominent eight miles of the Malverns run north and south, and at this point you are a mile from the southern end. The evening sun (this is an evening view) misses the flank of the Malverns but wonderfully illuminates the grass in the foreground and the distance, above which the long flank of the bare hills (though Midsummer Hill is wooded) rests with a certain grandeur, a certain consciousness of grandeur and serenity.

Again, other ridges or crumples have a more less regular outline. As Celia Fiennes noticed in one of her rides in the 17th century, the Malverns "are in a Pirramidy fashion on the map"; or at any rate they are serrated into peaks—from Midsummer Hill (937 feet) to Herefordshire Beacon (1,114 feet) and on to Worcester Beacon (1,394 feet) and the noble max or prow of North Hill (1,307 feet)—and with passes, quite genuine passes in miniature.

Near at hand, while you are still below and not on top, I should say that autumn and early winter are the time for the Malverns; the time

when their bracken turns into the wetter and blacker shades of brown. Except at the southern end, the steep ridge or steep crumple is unwooded, and always has been so. The name Malvern (of which we make a plural, and which we apply also to the towns of Malvern Wells and Great Malvern and Malvern Link and West Malvern, all of them clinging to the ridge) was a British name meaning "bare hill."

Climbing to the top of hills is a final and sometimes, I think, disenchanting act. But I must admit there are many worse things to do than walk the main ridge of the Malvern Island, say from Midsummer Hill to North Hill; a point

at which I shall have to break a resolution and mention, after all, *Piers Plowman*. There are prospects and prospects, just as there are (from below) better hills and worse hills. The view eastward from the Malverns, or north-eastward or north from North Hill, is one of those rare ones which can give the beholder, as it gave Piers the Plowman on his May Morning, a vision of mankind. I know that the Plowman dreamt his vision, having sat down tired by one of the Malvern springs or streams. But what he saw with his eyes shut, he had seen a few minutes before with his eyes open; just as Coleridge, when he dreamt his *Kubla Khan*, worked into it



GREAT MALVERN IN EARLY SPRING

that still and sunless Bristol Sea he had looked down upon that same day from the prospect height of the Exmoor hills; and what the Plowman saw in his vision, you will remember, was the "fair field full of folke," mankind rich and poor, working and wandering—the fair field of the eastern prospect across the plain, across the Severn, a landscape thoroughly humanised then as now; and one, now as then, which seems the world.

Perhaps mankind and the world are surveyed best of all from North Hill, or from the Worcestershire Beacon, though I prefer the summit of the mediæval castle mound inside the Iron Age fortifications which top the Herefordshire Beacon. And there is a little more solitude to be had aloft—or a little less multitude—along the crumple between this Herefordshire Beacon and Midsummer Hill; that is to say, along the stretch of the high Malverns farthest from a main road.

In one sense the Malverns are rather like the moon. The back is not always seen. The eastern azure face is the familiar one. But once you climb to the top from the east side, you realise why the Malverns were once a forest, then a chase—in other words, a great mediæval hunting-ground. Down the ridge runs the border dividing Worcestershire from Herefordshire. When you look down on the Herefordshire side, you see—even now—less a fair field full of folk than the ghost of a forest, or of coverts for deer. At any rate you look on to an assemblage of small folded half-wooded hills, towards Hereford—and Wales. Eastern face for sunrise, western face for sunsets, and, it must be admitted, quite extraordinary distances. If you are no upward walker, this superb though different prospect can be enjoyed, supposing there are not too many other cars about, from the lazy comfort of the western encircling road.

To revert again to A438, a good quick way of discovering—or sampling—the Malverns is to drive between Hollybush and Midsummer Hill, past Eastnor and Eastnor Castle (a green-stained heavy job of pseudo-Norman, by Sir Robert Smirke, architect of the British Museum, which looks surprisingly false), and then round to Wynds Point, below Herefordshire Beacon. There the western road begins, aloft, poised between ridge and peaks and passes up above and wooded hills below; eventually circling round North Hill, above the world, for the descent to Great Malvern.

The new official "area of outstanding natural beauty" takes in more than the main ridge, which for most of its brief length is less than half-a-mile wide. Eastward the official area drops down and includes Welland, below Little Malvern; westward it descends and extends as



"THE MALVERN HILLS HAVE A PECULIAR AND SPECIAL RELATION TO THE SKY
THEY ARE IN THE SKY LIKE NARROW MOUNTAINS"

far below the ridge as Ledbury, taking in the covert hills of the old forest or chase; and to the north, a little north-west of North Hill, it takes in a lower extent of the Malverns past Longley Green and Suckley and Alfrick to Knightwick, a nook-and-corner country of the sharp Suckley Hills and woods and the narrowest lanes, and a sense—or illusion—of a forgotten peasant existence. In the 18th-century folios of Nash's *Collections for a History of Worcestershire*, there is a quite admirable 16th-century poem, anonymous, about Great Malvern, the Malverns and the waters of those Malvern holy wells prosaically transmuted into the healthy waters of a spa. This extra country north-west of North Hill, and the hilly sub-country west of the ridge, remind me of one stanza:

*Turn up thine eyes on high,
There fairly standing
See Malvern's highest hill
All hills commanding.
They all confess at will,
Their sovereign Malvern hill.
Let it be mighty still. . . .*

Again and again these lesser hills afford a sudden, rootless view of "Malvern's highest hill" or ridge out-topping them, and giving a special savour, a special significance, to all of this strange countryside.

As for the towns which cling to the Malverns, I will say at least that the great crumple, the great island of rock, disdains them, and manages—with the help of the National Trust and the longstanding work of the Malvern Hills Conservators—to keep them downstairs in their place.

When I was writing this article, I happened to read the report in the local *Malvern Gazette* of an enquiry into a matter of building on the Malverns. The Herefordshire County Council was being tough and saying no: the Conservators also were complaining that "Malvern was now a place of rambling urban development at its worst." Perhaps. But the "highest hill" has so far managed to defeat, by its sheer drama, most of the suffocating attentions of those who are in love with it.

On the whole the houses—even the scattered ones—are not too bad; and I would commend the Malverns, round and about, to anyone who wished to make a study of Victorian bargaining. At dusk and at night the twinkling of house lights so high along the black flanks and bulk of the Malverns does have a delightful effect, as if again, but in a reverse direction, one was seeing all of mankind.

This new official order gives more power to local authorities to preserve and protect and improve, not entirely out of their own local pockets, but with the aid of government grants. Positively, I suppose, there is not a great deal that can be done to the Malverns. They are already well equipped with paths, and rubbish baskets and discreet parking places; but I always wonder, when such orders are made, just how far local authorities will realise the various accents of beauty in the special areas. If there were follies, prospect towers, and, by way of lodge and villa, delicate pieces of Regency and Early-Victorian picturesque, would the local powers recognise them and save them? At the south end of the Malverns there is an obelisk in a fine situation, placed there in the last century by Earl Somers, the builder of Eastnor Castle to commemorate a son killed in the Peninsular War. The evening sun illuminates its 90 feet of pallid stone when the hills underneath are in shadow.

Suppose it was in bad repair, suppose it was likely to fall, would that obelisk be set to rights and preserved under such an order, out of public funds? I hope it would but I wonder.



SHEEP GRAZING ON THE LOWER SLOPES OF THE HILLS

THE TWO ROSE NATIONS OF BRITAIN

FFERERS FROM BLACK SPOT AND THOSE WHO ESCAPE IT

By TOM EDRIDGE

ROSES are, without question, the most widely grown of flowering shrubs: then come rhododendrons. Gardeners generally accept the natural limitation for rhododendrons in Great Britain that the country must be divided into a number of regions: in them the soil is either too alkaline for these lovely shrubs, or it is between neutral and acid and usually unsuitable for at least some of them, provided it does not get dry. Such facts are not difficult to ascertain; a simple chemical test will at least give the answer to the matter of alkalinity. Causes of rose difficulties are not as clear cut as the difference between soils with rhododendrons; they cannot be measured by a soil test but must be judged by the reactions of the plants themselves; they grow well or they do not.

One is led to thinking of rose growers as divided, in Disraeli's terms, into two nations. Disraeli implied in his *Two Nations* the rich and the poor, neither of which knew anything about the other. As one who once gardened in an industrial part of the country where roses perished with no trouble, I now belong to the other rose nation. In an atmosphere more clean than not clean and moist from off the Continent, trying to grow many of the popular roses is a continual frustration. It is an education to go among the healthy plants of industrial districts such as parts of Yorkshire, and then to look around the countryside of the south-west, where bitter experience has made many gardeners despair in the war of the roses. Too often one rose nation does not appreciate what the other is like for the other.

Those who write about roses appear mainly to live in parts of the country which are not troubled by the disease of black spot (*Actinomyces rosæ*). One cannot but suspect that if they moved into the clean atmosphere of much of the countryside they would not tantalise the rest of the other nation by suggesting that rose growing is a fool-proof business—an astonishing statement appearing in a recent book by a near-Londoner. For what may be a greater number of gardeners, black spot is something they may have heard of but never experienced: for the others, often fortunate enough otherwise to live in the cleaner country air, rose growing may have to be restricted to kinds better able to withstand the disease. By weakening the plant the disease can be a killer.

Whether you find rose growing fool-proof or not largely depends on where you live. This is where it is difficult to locate exactly: it is not far away, from limestone or chalk and so



QUEEN MARY'S GARDEN, REGENT'S PARK, LONDON. Roses grown in areas where the atmosphere is affected by industrial pollution are freer from black spot, the author believes, than those grown in clean country air

cannot be called geographical in the sense that a rhododendron region is geographical or geological. If "where" depends on anything, it seems tied up with air pollution, temperature and moisture. If the air in your garden arrives fresh from the Atlantic, then you are likely to be well placed to be haunted by black spot: if you live where the air is rich in sulphur and other atmospheric abominations, then black spot may keep away—and who can blame it?

A great deal remains to be discovered about what is a devastating handicap to thousands of lovers of the rose. That *Actinomyces rosæ* does not appear in districts where there is industrial smoke is widely believed, the suggestion being that sulphur compounds in the air prevent any spores from multiplying. It also seems that where the air is free of such sulphur the leaves or shoots must be wet for a certain number of hours for the spores to multiply (heavy dew is enough) and eventually cause the purplish black blemishes and often the premature fall of leaf. Rather naturally it might be expected that a well-fed bush, in ground neither badly drained nor subject to drought, is better able to stand up to infection; it also attacks older rather than young leaves. But plant food can be leached from the soil by excessive rain, as in 1958—a very bad year for black spot. Food can also be held up owing to lack of water, as in 1959, for plants drink their food. The dread disease can winter on rose foliage, both on and off the bush, but it is restricted to rose material and does not exist on other plants.

Not all roses are equally susceptible. *Rosa lutea* (*foetida*), which has done so much in the 20th century to bring about the popular flame shades, is considered among those most liable to black spot: the weakness is shared in varying degrees by hybrids derived from it. *R. bracteata*, a parent of the climber Mermaid, seems immune.

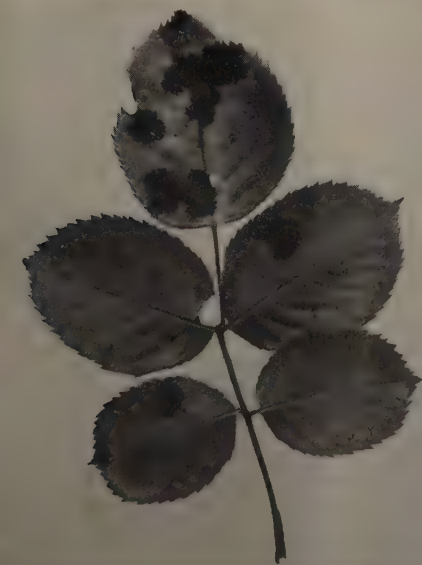
Largely it is necessary to learn from personal experience, in a particular garden or district, of the different reactions of the many kinds of rose to black spot. My own district is certainly a bad one. That a majority of the roses in my garden are shrub roses, or of kinds other than hybrid teas and floribundas, may be due partly to interest in these other roses, and partly to a search for kinds better able to withstand the scourge. I am quite prepared to believe that few roses are completely immune, but also I have not seen black spot on a number of the more useful species like the red *R. moyesii*, yellow *R. hugonis*, or *R. rugosa*; neither on forms or varieties of *R. gallica*, *R. alba*, *R. centifolia*, nor on rambler descendants of *R. wichuraiana*.

The greatest disappointment has been with a number of Bourbon varieties. This revolutionary rose, found in 1817, was a chance hybrid between a damask (closely related to *R. gallica*) and *R. chinensis*, carrying the invaluable and rare quality of perpetual flowering (as against a single short season). Because of this we have legions of roses now able to flower over six months instead of six weeks. Undoubtedly this chance hybrid was one of the great events in garden history. But some Bourbons suffer badly; this does hint that *R. chinensis* may be as tainted, in the black spot sense, as *R. lutea*. Perhaps the worst sufferer among my own bushes is that rich yellow pernetiana climber, Lawrence Johnston. Creamy white Nevada is another frequent victim; also the attractive apricot hybrid musk Grandmaster; and Lady Penzance, a sweet briar hybrid of *R. lutea* descent.

Others of that most useful group, the cluster-headed hybrid musks, seem to vary a good deal in their susceptibility owing to the wide range of parentage. In my experience the red Will Scarlet and golden Danæ suffer most, whereas I have not seen the disease on the delightful coppery-foliaged Moonlight, growing close to them.

Black spot has been comparatively mild in the dry 1959, but so bad was it in the wet 1958 that the risk of infection lying about until the following spring was greater than usual. Although I tried to forestall this by winter sprayings of plants and their immediate surroundings, the disease showed itself as early as May; one expects attacks later in the season when the temperature hovers near 70 degrees. Of course one difficulty in a wet year like 1958 is that rain quickly washes off protective sprays, and the very wetness encourages the disease further. During 1959 the dry, sunny weather, combined with the occasional use of captan as a spray, meant that the sinister blotches were rarely seen. If they did occasionally appear later in August and September, I associated it with a possible declining health of plants unable, owing to drought, to obtain the foods in the soil.

It may be that much more will have to be known about black spot before breeders can induce wider general immunity in the popular hybrid teas and floribundas. Those kinds known variously as old and shrub roses tend to come mainly from a few nurseries specialising in them. It might be wiser for a buyer in a bad black spot district to pick a nursery with practical experience of the disease rather than one in a district where it rarely occurs.



ROSE LEAVES AFFECTED BY BLACK SPOT. "It seems that when the air is free of sulphur the leaves on shoots must be wet for a certain number of hours for the spores to multiply"

TALKING ABOUT SALE-ROOMS

LETHAL WEAPONS AND ALTAR PORCELAIN

By FRANK DAVIS

THE two lethal weapons of Fig. 3 probably attracted my attention for quite the wrong reason when I saw them recently at a Sotheby's sale. Knowing nothing whatever about their rarity as collectors' pieces or their importance as specimens of craftsmanship, I merely fell in love with their wicked beauty, on the theory that if one is out to kill one might as well use a comely instrument, in preference to a nail-studded bludgeon. The dagger—a *main gauche* dagger—has hilt, pommel and grip of

reveals a pattern of cherubs' heads and foliage carried out in silver, the silver inlaid in the steel and then worked over but not smoothed down flush with the surface. It was described as English, early-17th-century, the blade with Solingen Wolf mark, and orb and cross mark inlaid in copper. The dagger realised £130, the sword £140, and they are now part of the collection at the Tower of London.

The name of Sophonisba must be a great rarity, but then the only Sophonisba I have ever heard of was a rare creature and a considerable painter in her own right. She came of a large family in Cremona, that of Anguisciola—Latinised in the miniature of Fig. 1 into Angussola—and at the age of 32, in 1560, went to work at the Spanish Court at the invitation of Philip II. The miniature was painted by herself, about two years earlier; and what a pleasant, straight-forward, commonsensical young woman she must have been—not perhaps a beauty, but agreeable none the less. She seems never to have married. She lived to be painted by Van Dyck during his visit to Palermo in 1624, dying the following year at the age of 97.

I seem to remember a family portrait by her, and there are several self-portraits, among them one in the Victoria and Albert Museum very like this. She holds a large roundel encircled by the inscription *Sophonisba Angussola Virgo Ipsius Manu Ex Speculo Depicta Cremonae* (the maiden Sophonisba Angussola painted from a mirror by her own hand at Cremona), which is clear enough; but no one, so far, seems to have suggested a solution to the elaborately interlaced monogram in the middle

of the roundel, which is apparently composed of the letters ERYZMCK. Sophonisba wears a lace collar and black dress, with her hair tied in a plait round the back of her head, which no doubt partly accounts for her extremely modern appearance. The background is a translucent green. This endearing miniature was sold for £200.

It is possible to illustrate only a sample from the Meissen porcelain altar set that Lord Ellesmere sent to Christie's—27 pieces in all, including the Crucifix. Considered purely as porcelain it is late—1772—and consequently hardly to be counted among collectors' pieces; but it has a quality and I think a sincerity that place it in a class by itself, far removed from the mawkish sentimentality that is so revolting a feature of the innumerable objects of piety to be seen in the windows of some ecclesiastical



3.—17th-CENTURY MAIN GAUCHE DAGGER AND 17th-CENTURY ENGLISH SWORD. The dagger, £130; the sword, £140

furnishers. It is difficult to house, and the decision of the owner to let it go is as easy to understand as the diffidence of many a public and private institution in bidding for it. If someone were now to present it to the Victoria and Albert Museum I rather think the necessity of building a special setting for it might be embarrassing. Its proper place is obviously in a church. It was, however, acquired for 5,500 guineas in the trade, with the underbidder, I am told, acting on behalf of a would-be donor.

Here, very briefly, is its history. It was modelled in 1772 by the great J. J. Kaendler in the order of Pope Clement XIV; three years later both the Pope and Kaendler (who had been chief modeller to the Meissen factory since 1733) were dead. Consequently the six tall prickly candlesticks bear the arms of Pope Pius VI. Some of the 12 figures of saints had been modelled by Kaendler as early as 1735, after designs by Camillo Rusconi, for the church of S. Giovanni in Laterano, so that in a sense this unique altar set can be said to span the greater part of Kaendler's working life; in its final form it was in any case one of the last of the important commissions that he undertook. How it left the Vatican is not recorded, but the most likely explanation is that it was a gift from Pius VI in the 1790s to the Duke of Bridgewater during one of the latter's several visits to Italy.

I think that those who were able to look closely at this magnificent set before the sale will have found it, as I did, a memorable experience, and will also agree with me that it would be a monstrous barbarism if it had to be broken up and sold piecemeal. Perhaps some indication of the mingled dignity and grace of the whole is provided by Figs. 4 and 5; there are 14 candlesticks altogether, two 17 ins. high, six 22½ ins. and six 40 ins. These last, in gilt and white, have waisted triangular bases



1.—MINIATURE SELF-PORTRAIT BY SOPHONISBA ANGUISCIOLO, ABOUT 1558. "A pleasant, straightforward, commonsensical young woman." 3¼ ins. high. £200

steel chiselled and pierced with foliage. The back-edge blade is stamped on each side with a mark, a Maltese cross surmounted by a pellet; the catalogue entry suggested Naples of the mid 17th century.

The sword is not so patently comely from the illustration, apart from the form of the hilt, loop guard and quillons, but a close examination



2.—MEISSEN DUELLISTS BY J. J. KAENDLER, ON A FRENCH ORMOLU MOUNT, WITH VINCENNES PORCELAIN FLOWERS. "Kaendler endowed the duellists with fire in their hearts and spring in their bones." 11½ ins. high. 780 gns.



CANDLESTICKS FROM THE GREAT MEISSEN ALTAR SET MODELLED IN 1772 BY J. J. KAENDLER TO THE ORDER OF THE CLEMENT XIV. 17 and 22½ ins. high. (Right) 5.—40-in. CANDLESTICKS FROM THE ALTAR SET. The cherubs hold the Triple Cross, the Papal Tiara and the Keys of St. Peter. The set of 27 pieces—Crucifix, saints and candlesticks—5,500 gns.

mounted by winged cherubs as enchanting as ever dreamed of by Rubens or Falconet, holding the Papal Tiara, the Triple Cross and the Keys of St. Peter. Between them are white porcelain figures before silver gilt sunbursts, and the middle section has a biscuit frieze of sacred figures. The smaller candlesticks bear the arms in silver gilt of Pius VI, a member of the Kaendler family, and the upper parts are decorated with no less endearing cherubs seated on clouds.

At a rough guess at least half of this sale was devoted to porcelain in its more familiar decorative forms from this earliest of the great continental porcelain factories, some of it decorated with those swirling ormolu mounts which were a peculiarly French contribution to the decorative art of the 18th century, and that as welcome in the international market as they were in the great houses of two centuries ago. Fig. 2 shows a typical example of the marriage of convenience between Meissen porcelain and the finest Paris ormolu, of about the 1750s, with the flowers (produced as so often by the Meissen factory at Völs) incongruously and amusingly blossoming on an ormolu tree.

More than one expert was admiring the exceptionally high quality of this particular Meissen ornament, which I rather liked, had a good deal to do with the price of the set—780 guineas. The figures of the two duellists are rare enough, though not exceptionally so; they are to be found like other Meissen models, though not so easily, in various colours—colours which, broadly speaking, may be dated, for by the 1740s fashion demanded the delicate shades than the fine rich reds, blacks and yellows which give a brilliance to the figures of the 1740s. The colours of these two figures are brown, blue, black, green and yellow. Kaendler was an incomparable modeller of the fragile material to which he devoted his long

career and endowed these two duellists with fire in their hearts and spring in their bones.

Another pair of Meissen figures—a gay little Blackmoor and his companion, also mounted in ormolu with the trees supporting nozzles for candles—sold for 650 guineas. Kaendler's no less extraordinary gifts as a modeller of birds were to be seen a few minutes earlier in a pair of figures of a cock and hen, first modelled in December, 1742, in colour mostly yellow, lilac, brown and black; they sold for 950 guineas.

A very grand tea and coffee service from the early days of the factory—somewhere about 1720—was bought for the high price of 1,350 guineas. There were 28 pieces all told—tea-pot and cover, a pear-shaped coffee-pot and cover, a bowl, a hexagonal tea-caddy, six two-handled cups and saucers and six cups and saucers without handles. The coffee-pot, tea-pot and one of the double-handled cups and saucers are illustrated in Fig. 6.



As was the practice in many other establishments, by no means every piece was decorated at the factory, and the design on this service, which is carried out entirely in gold, was probably done at Augsburg. The subject is the favourite imitation Chinese of the period—a world of fantasy, with pagodas, palm trees and perpetual tea-drinking, where time stands still at about 3.10 on a summer afternoon.

A nice soup tureen, with cover and stand, also Meissen, painted in imitation of Japanese Kakiemon porcelain with flowering plants issuing from rock-work, went for 220 guineas; a pair of small tureens modelled as partridges seated on nests—how all Europe at that time loved such things and imitated them!—made 150 guineas; another, a single one, but bearing the crossed swords mark, went for 120 guineas.



6.—PART OF A MEISSEN TEA AND COFFEE SERVICE, ABOUT 1720. Painted with chinoiserie gilt decoration. The set of 28 pieces, 1,350 gns.

ARE THERE TOO MANY MUTE SWANS

By GARTH CHRISTIAN

WE were church-crawling, as Mr. John Betjeman might put it. Below Worth Church in East Sussex, where the largest pre-Norman chancel arch in England supports a building shaped like the Cross, I remarked on the speed with which mute swans had colonised a reservoir supplying water to the new town of Crawley.

At Withyham, "the enclosure of withies," we came quite unexpectedly upon an aggressive cob who arched his neck and raised his wings as we set off to explore an equally unsuspected church. Then, as we reached a 12th-century doorway, saw that much of the church had been rebuilt in the 17th century and found to our delight the Sackville monuments by Flaxman, Chantrey and the father of Colley Cibber, a shrill trumpeting sound that swiftly merged into a snort reached our ears. These swans were anything but mute during the brief period of our visit, though on subsequent occasions they remained silent.

An hour later I was standing beside the splendid church of Fletching, where Edward Gibbon is buried. There I read a plaque on the exterior of the west wall to an under-gardener who, a century ago, gave "fifty years of loyal servitude to the Earl of Sheffield." Suddenly out of the southern sky drifted the haunting sound of swans' wings beating the air as a pair swept majestically above the valley of the Ouse towards the waters of Piltdown Pond, which they once shared for a day or two with a wandering osprey.

Back at home I glanced at my note-books. I had spent hardly a day out, it seemed, without a sight of these royal birds about the still silent waters of the reservoirs or slow-moving rivers: cob swans quietly and unobtrusively selecting their mates, probably for life, as the sultry days of late summer give way to the brisk days of the fall; swans building their circular nests of roots and reed stems and sticks; pen swans spending the greater part of some 35 days or more incubating the five to seven pale eggs, though the cob does his fair share, especially at night;



MUTE SWAN ON LINDFIELD POND, SUSSEX. Mute swans are increasing rapidly in number in Britain, but the author does not consider that this increase justifies the strict control that some people have recommended

swans patrolling the waters of some half-forgotten moat, and adding a measure of dignity to the architecture of any period.

Above all, perhaps, swans in flight, the hum of their pinions beating the air almost swamping the croaking of corncrakes that could be heard, not so many years ago, in the vicinity of Clifton's bridge at Stratford-on-Avon. "In this room," said the guide in Shakespeare's house—and repeated it three times in as many minutes—"William Makepeace Thackeray scratched his signature on a window pane." Did the author of the misdeed, I wondered during my brief wartime visit, see the swans jostling for a place at the quay-side as I had just done, to the embarrassment of American soldiers who were testing their skill at boating? Did Marie Corelli, "the Shakespeare of the novel," as one bishop called her, hear the swans sweeping over the old town?

Surely Shakespeare did, for the birds were abundant in his day. Less than seven decades before his birth, the secretary of the Venetian Ambassador wrote to his master: "It is a truly beautiful thing to behold one or two thousand tame swans upon the river Thames as I, and also your magnificence, have seen." Records of the ancient practice of swan-upping reveal that when Shakespeare was 23, 41 broods of cygnets were born on the River Lea between Tottenham and Stortford; and rough calculations suggest that in 1553 the total swan population of the Fenland could not have been less than 24,000, and it was probably a good deal more.

Thanks to the research of Mr. N. F. Ticehurst, we know that by 1250 the mute swans

must have been present in at least 24 English counties; and to judge from the ease with which Henry III could command 40 swans, many from the West Country, for a Christmas feast at Winchester in 1247, 104 swans from the Midlands and south-east England two years later, and 125 more for a Christmas spent in York in 1251, they must have been plentiful. Giraldus Cambrensis, too, was clearly familiar with the mute swans of the Bishop of Lincoln, which around the time of St. Hugh's enthronement in 1186, were suddenly joined by a whooper swan which the Bishop is said to have tamed. All of which implies that the Victorian naturalists were wrong when they suggested that mute swans, though royal birds, were not quite respectable, having been introduced by the Crusaders.

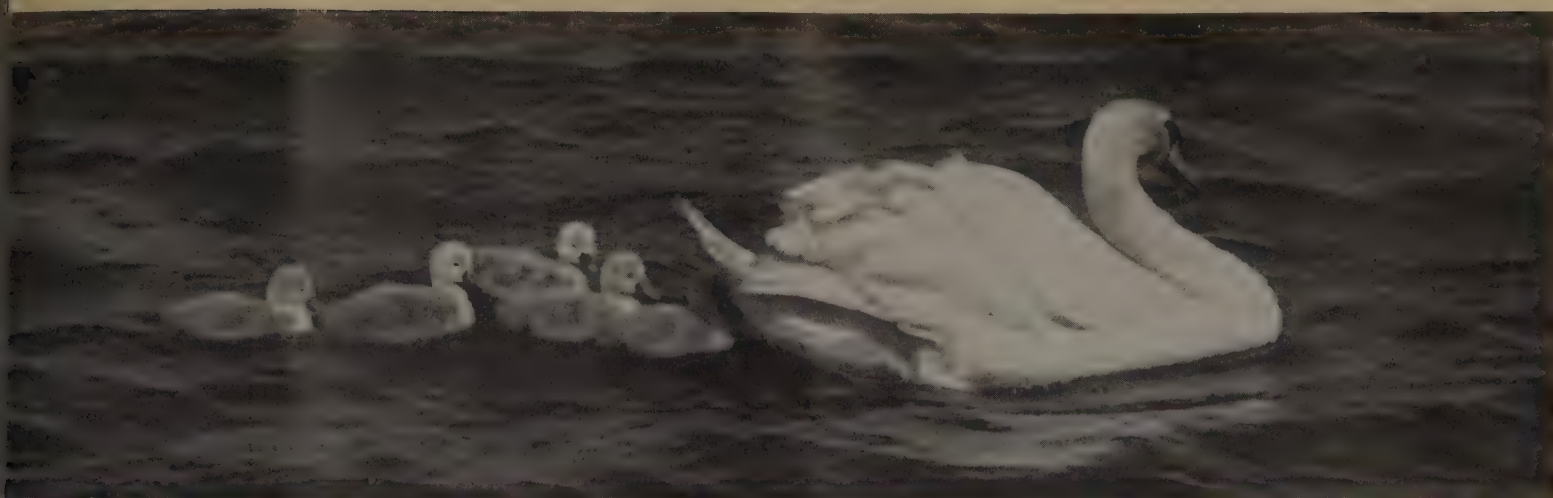
To-day a vast amount of information is being gathered about these indigenous birds of Britain. When the British Trust for Ornithology launched their national swan census in 1953, they were able to call upon the aid of an increasingly bird-minded public, thanks to the influence of wireless and television. Twenty-six persons promptly reported the same swans' nests on the ponds at Carshalton, Surrey. A careful census in the London area revealed that 18 pairs were breeding within 20 miles of St. Paul's and since swans do not normally breed before their third year, it was hardly surprising that nearly a thousand unmated swans were found in the same area during 1956.

Is this no more, perhaps, than in the day when Shakespeare was at the Globe? Certainly many more, we may presume, than in Victorian times. Figures not less startling can be supplied from other areas. At Mistley, on the Suffolk Essex border, a single pair were thriving in 1914. Twenty years later they had increased to 5 pairs. Last year there were more than 350 pairs. After the first stage of the swan census had been completed in 1955 and 1956, it was suggested that there were probably about 3,000 breeding pairs of mute swans in Britain, the heaviest concentrations being in Dorset—home of Lord Ilchester's Abbotsbury swannery, with more than 120 pairs—Norfolk, Somerset and Wiltshire. We shall know more precise details late this winter, when the British Trust for Ornithology publishes the report which Dr. Bruce Campbell, its former Secretary, is now compiling.

The recent rise in population has been accompanied by a mounting chorus of complaints about swan damage. The South Western Electricity Board, responsible for power supplies in the vicinity of the Somerset marshes as well as in Devon and Cornwall, blame swans for



SWANS NESTING AT PILTDOWN, SUSSEX. Mated swans in small family groups do not create the same problems for farmers as herds of unmated birds



MOTHER SWAN AND NEWLY-BORN CYGNETS AT PILTDOWN POND, SUSSEX

most half the breakdowns caused by birds ing into the overhead lines. In eastern Eng- during 1955-56 there were 147 power ures due to birds, and the charred remains of re than 70 swans were found beneath the les. Statistics show that while the faults due all species of birds remain at a steady figure, idents involving mute swans are increasing h year, even when allowance is made for the ghtening milage covered by the cables.

Still louder are the grumbles of anglers, ose numbers have been growing at least as uch as the swans. True, these birds seldom t fish. Small frogs and toads, earthworms and poles are more likely to be taken; but prim- ly, of course, swans live on the stalks, buds d roots of water-weeds, the rhizomes of reeds d other plants. Sometimes these may be voured with insects and their larvæ. Some- es, too, the swans waste a good deal of weed, ich floats downstream to choke the weed- cks to the indignation of fishery proprietors, o have to clear them if flooding is not to reaten surrounding farm land.

What is worse, from the angler's int of view, is that swans, in aking powerful lunges at the uatic vegetation, are "a bit settling," as one countryman put to the fish. This is particularly e where herds of unmated swans emble. In Britain we are not milar with those herds of 1,500 to 000 birds that have been counted the Swedish breeding haunt of ke Takern. Indeed, except at bsbury and certain other places ere the semi-wild swans nest in ose proximity to one another, ese birds possess a strong sense of rritory and resent the presence of als close at hand. When a few eeding pairs are thinly scattered ong the reaches of some river, each b and pen claiming a large extent water, any damage they do may o matter for concern.

Farmers start complaining, wever, when large herds of mated birds gather on the river- le meadows. Since these acres ay be under water for much of e year, the period when they can sed for grazing is short. Hence e fury of farmers who find that e droppings from large herds of ans have so fouled the land that arm stock are loath to feed there. or can much be done about utting the grass when large umbers of birds are constantly eading it down.

This was the situation in the run Valley of West Sussex during 58, when two herds of unmated ans, numbering about 200 birds all, attracted much notoriety. xcept for the odd individual, few ute swans migrate, and these rds of the Arun Valley may well e descendants of those that cost

a Bishop of Chichester 6s. 8d. swan money when he moved into Amberley Castle around 1600.

None can deny the harm which an em-arrassment of mute swans may occasionally cause a river-side farmer. Yet it is hard for an impartial observer not to suspect that these swans of the Arun valley were granted a measure of publicity out of all proportion to the damage they inflicted. News of their misdeeds even penetrated to the House of Lords, though it must be added that similar complaints also came in from Somerset, the Trent valley of Nottinghamshire and East Anglia. A bill for the control of swans, it was suggested, might be introduced into the House next spring. Swans had suddenly become news.

Naturally enough, there was talk of reduc- ing their numbers at once. But could that be done? Except for the Thames swans owned by the Dyers and Vintners Company, the Abbots- bury swans of Lord Ilchester and the birds around Wroxham Hall, Norfolk—home of the Trafford family—few mute swans remain in

private possession. Ever since the 12th century, however, and possibly before, all wild unmarked swans have been "royal fowl," the property of the Crown. Anybody who shot one could conceivably be charged with theft.

In fact, he is much more likely to be prosecuted under the Wild Birds Protection Act, 1954, though that Act does contain an escape clause whereby an attempt to kill a wild bird, provided it is not on the "specially protected" list, may be judged to be no offence if the court can be satisfied that it was really necessary to prevent serious damage to crops. Meanwhile the Nature Conservancy, as scientific advisers to the Government, can deliver judgment on the treat- ment of mute swans only in the light of facts. And original facts, gleaned in the field by com- petent observers, are sometimes scarcer than hoopoes.

Obviously, advocates of new swan control measures were wise to watch those 200 Sussex swans around Pulborough, to study their move- ments and investigate the damage they were doing. Through last spring and early summer experts waited for evidence of swan damage to accumulate.

But it didn't. Not a single farmer in West Sussex complained of serious damage to his fields during this past season. The much- publicised birds of the Arun mated and dispersed to territories of their own, except for a score or so that caused little offence. Last August I asked the promoters of the proposed Bill for the Control of Mute Swans whether it was still their intention to introduce the measure into the House of Lords, and they replied that it was not.

There for the moment the matter rests. The Swan Census Report will reveal much interesting information about the status of these royal birds; it will shed little incidental light on swan damage. In Shakespeare's town, the hundred swans that irritate boatmen are being reduced in number by half, the R.S.P.C.A. helping to find good homes for the unwanted birds. Meanwhile engineers of the electri- city boards assure one that mute swans are a confounded nuisance. Anglers insist that fewer birds will mean better sport. The growing multitudes of picnickers delight in their abundance and few naturalists, surely, fail to experience a thrill at the grandeur of their flight.

When the swans of the Sussex Ouse alight on the waters of Pilt- down Pond, visitors may offer them bread, or youthful anglers, I regret to say, may toss pebbles near them. The sense of uncertainty that must be felt by these swans perhaps sym- bolises the threat of strict control recommended by some people, which control I consider unjustified.

Illustrations: Gwyneth Pennethorne.



MUTE SWANS ON THE RIVER ARUN IN WEST SUSSEX. These may be the descendants of birds for which the Bishop of Chichester paid 6s. 8d. swan money in about 1600

A PRODUCT OF THE GOLDEN AGE

By H. DALTON CLIFFORD



FROME HOUSE, FROME ST. QUINTIN, NEAR DORCHESTER, DORSET. The south-west front. The main part of the house was built in 1782, and the drawing-room wing (left) added in 1913



THE FRONT DOOR. The name of the original owner, G. Baker, and the date are carved on the architrave between the columns

FROME HOUSE, Frome St. Quintin, near Dorchester, Dorset, stands on a plateau of immaculate lawn shaded by tall trees and screened from the curving village street by a mossy brick wall and interlaced limes. A wrought-iron gate in the middle of the wall opens on to a flagged path that steps up between clipped hedges to the pillared porch.

The porch forms the central feature of the main body of the house, a brick and stone building about forty-five feet square on plan and two storeys high, with vaulted cellars below and attics under the slated roof. At the back is a range of older buildings in local stone rubble and flint, and there are two brick additions, made in this century, one consisting of the drawing-room with bedrooms over, and the other, at the east corner, containing the kitchen.

G. Baker, whose name is carved on the porch with the date, 1782, has no claim to fame. Indeed, all that the present owner has been able to find out about him is that G stands for George, and that he owned considerable property in the neighbourhood. And his architect, if he employed one, was content to remain anonymous. But the end of the 18th century was the golden age of English domestic architecture, when every man with wealth enough to build seems also to have been endowed with faultless taste, and every master mason or joiner could emulate the work of the greatest architects of the time simply by copying from pattern-books. As a result this modest house is a work of art, well proportioned, dignified and embellished with charming decoration.

Yet judged by the standards we apply to contemporary architecture Frome House, as originally built, left a lot to be desired. The plan was devoid of finesse, showing little regard for the convenience of the occupants. There were one or two structural deficiencies, and even the workmanship was poor in places. Furthermore, the building materials used were foreign to the district and the style adopted was really more suited to an urban or suburban setting than to the depths of the Dorset countryside. When new it must have appeared as ostentatious and incongruous as a combine harvester in a kitchen garden.

Time has changed all this. The bricks, originally a uniform dark red, now show subtle variations in colour and tone caused by different degrees of exposure to the weather, and are attractively dappled with yellow and white lichenous growths. The stone used for the porch and cornice has long since lost its glaring whiteness and acquired a countryman's mellow, freckled complexion.



THE ENTRANCE HALL. The door opposite leads into the drawing-room. Above the bookcase is a painting by John Ferneley of John, Henry and Francis Grant, ancestors of the owner. (Right) **THE NEW STAIRCASE.** This fine example of modern craftsmanship fits into a semi-circular recess off the centre hall. The door at the end of the corridor opens into a garden court

the additions, carried out in matching brickwork and with all architectural details copied from the original, have increased the stature of the house without spoiling its character. And the trees—cedar, copper beech, weeping ash, holly and yew among others—have grown to splendid maturity and furnish the house with an appropriate frame.

The porch is a delightful feature. Whether it is, in fact, based on a design from one of the well-known pattern-books of the period has not been established, but it gives the impression of being the work of a master craftsman on his mettle, making the most of a rare opportunity to show what he can do.

The brickwork is unusual in that on the front of the building (except where the parapet has been rebuilt) only the ends of the bricks, or headers, show, while on the flanks Flemish bond is used. The flat arches over the window openings are of smooth red rubbers, with fluted impost stones.

The house has recently been acquired by Vice-Admiral Basil Brooke. He and his wife have just completed its rejuvenation, restoring the exterior and making several internal improvements. The major structural alteration is the introduction of a new staircase. It is impossible to tell how the original stair was planned, for it was replaced about 1913 by another that blocked a vista right through the house from the front gate to a garden court at the back and made the hall small and gloomy. The new one, beautifully made of oak with a wrought-iron balustrade, fits into an apsidal recess to one side of the entrance hall.

The rooms have been decorated with well-chosen wallpapers, which not only make the most of the architectural forms and emphasise the character and purpose of the various rooms, but also provide a suitable background for the fine furniture and pictures, which came from the owner's former home, Beil, East Lothian.

The grounds have been improved by eliminating paths and flower beds which cut into the expanse of lawn, and by the use at focal points of several fine ornaments—a remarkable marble Athenian throne, an

18th-century lead figure of a gamekeeper, and an Etruscan urn—all of which came from Beil. At the back of the house is a large walled garden enclosing flower beds and lawns, and there is another walled garden, which may once have been a farm-yard, to the east of the house near the 13th-century village church.

The English countryside is enriched by many houses of comparable size and quality, but there can be few others that have been so well restored or so handsomely decorated and furnished as Frome House.



THE DRAWING-ROOM. The painting to the right of the window is a portrait of John Grant by Raeburn. This room was added on in 1913

SCOTLAND'S YEAR AT SMITHFIELD

By ANTHONY HURD

LOOKING down from the Earls Court gallery at noon on the second day of last week's Smithfield Show, one saw that the ring had been cleared of the cattle competing for the inter-breed championships, and thereafter machinery dominated the Main Hall. The trade stands made an even more impressive array of mechanical progress than we have seen at previous shows. Gay colours, red and various hues of blue, all helped to make a busy, cheerful scene, and indeed business for the agricultural engineers was good. An industry that exports to the value of £100 million a year needs a strong home base.

After a productive harvest, saved with less cost than usual, arable farmers in most districts have the money to replace worn machines and buy the newer models that will serve their purposes better than the old. I did not spot any revolutionary changes in design, but the leading manufacturers are making minor alterations and improvements to overcome weaknesses in design shown up by work in the field. The harvest of 1958, which was one of the most difficult for many, overloaded the combine harvesters with a mass of straw in tangled state, which was not at all easy to deal with, and at the same time the grain was on the damp side. Altogether the machines had much more trouble to face than the original combines that came to us from North America, where harvest conditions are almost uniformly easy. In 1959 there were few troubles and hold-ups in the harvest field. The minor changes in design now being incorporated are attributable to the experiences of 1958, but I doubt whether we shall ever have the perfect



SUPREME CHAMPION AT SMITHFIELD. Prince of Merger, an Aberdeen-Angus steer bred and owned by Wych Cross Estates, Birchgrove, Sussex

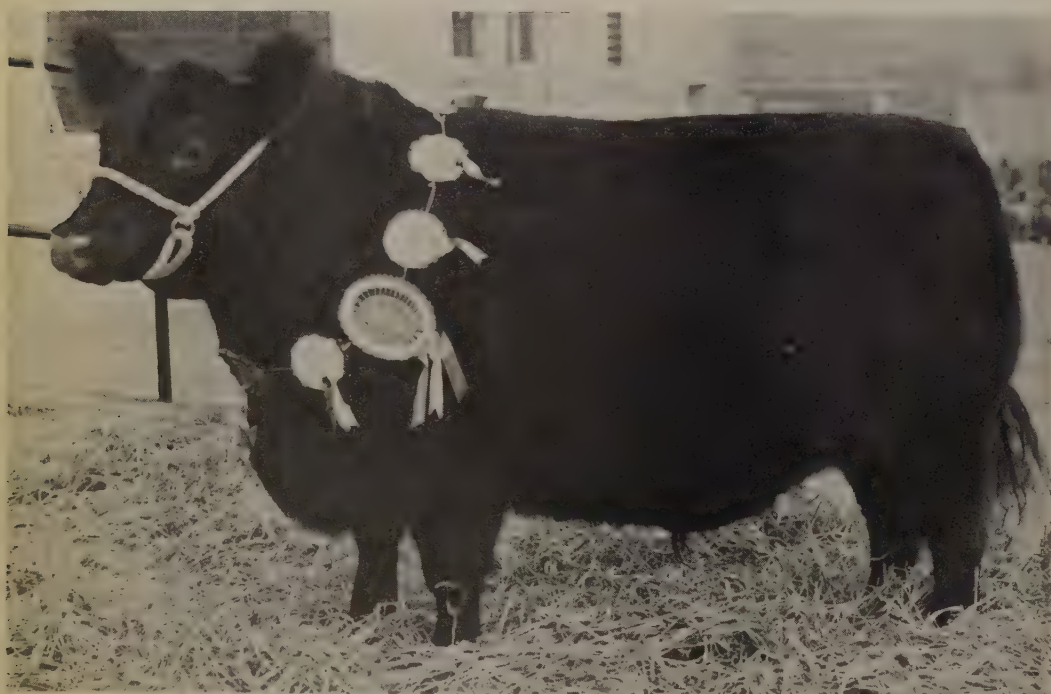
trouble-free machine to deal with such conditions.

Manufacturers make good use of the Smithfield Show for explaining the points and merits of new introductions. Round one stand, where a potato harvester was exhibited in motion, the rail held 24 telephone receivers,

which relayed a clear exposition of the working of the machine. This is much better than expecting one or two demonstrators to hold forth continuously during the Show. There were knowledgeable men on the stand to deal with questions from farmers and contractors, and I am sure that they were able to give better service by reserving themselves to deal with particular points raised by those really interested in the possibilities of the machine for their own conditions.

On the main floor, and upstairs in the gallery, there were many forage harvesters displayed. Good marks have been earned by this comparatively new machine, which cuts and chops grass in the field and loads it ready for carting direct to the silage clamp, or it will shred grass out for hay. Tossed up the grass can be left to lie on the ground to dry for two or three days. The process undoubtedly accelerates drying when there is sun and wind. But the farmer who uses a forage harvester for haymaking needs to have confidence in himself as a weather prophet, or in the forecasts from the Meteorological Office. Even so there is a general move towards the use of forage harvesters.

In the cattle classes, breeders and feeders maintained high standards of excellence. To-day there is no wide gap between the live animal, finished for exhibition on the hoof, and the side of beef that the butcher chooses to hang in his shop. Those who remember Smithfield Show when it was held at Islington will recall the very high finish required, in the days before the '39-'45 war, to win a place in the prize list and the championships. These cattle had to face an endurance test in the amount of fat that they were expected to carry. In some cases it was patchy fat that, on looks but not on touch,



THE RESERVE CHAMPION OF THE SHOW. Idamit of Kinermony, an Aberdeen-Angus steer bred by J. Sainsbury at Aberlour, Banffshire



CHAMPION PEN OF PIGS IN THE SHOW. A Welsh pair from the herd of Mrs. E. H. Watts and Mrs. J. Wilson, of Dunmow, Essex.
(Right) **THE BEST SINGLE PIG.** A Welsh and Large White cross shown by F. J. Mortimer and Son, of Longworth, Berkshire

ved to cover up deficiencies in the true form the beast.

To-day everyone looks for level conformation and firm touch. Extra fat in places where is not wanted disqualifies a beast from the top hours. Smithfield Show is no longer aathon in putting on weight for age. To theinary farmer it is still impressive to see whatse selected animals will do in this way, butfleshing is even and an example rather than parody of commercial perfection.

As housewives, and therefore butchers, do want excess fat, fashions in the show-ring have changed, and for the good. Here let me y tribute to the excellent commentary that John Cumber gave when the inter-breed championships were being judged. Describing the competitions and the breeds concerned, he is brief and to the point and, what pleased me of my neighbours at the ringside, quite partial. Mr. John Cumber knows the form cause he has himself judged these top-level competitions.

This year's championship judge, Mr. Alan ant, of Blairgowrie, Perthshire, did not take ng to reach his decisions. He knows what he es and what to look for in a beast that does al credit to the breeder and feeder as well as pplying what the butcher wants. The Aber-en-Angus, the Galloway, the Shorthorn and air first and second crosses were pulled out in ont time and time again, and certainly the ottish breeds were pre-eminent.

It was an unhappy coincidence that foot-and-mouth disease broke out in Gloucestershire and Leicestershire a few days before the opening of the Show and that local exhibitors had to nd their stock home soon after they reached arls Court, or have them slaughtered before e judging. The virus of foot-and-mouth ease is so infectious that the Ministry of griculture's veterinary officers really had no tion but to insist on this when it was found at stock from local markets had been widely erspersed, carrying possible infection with them efore they could be traced and contacts ould be checked.

At the Show I learned that pigs were the ctims in the Gloucestershire outbreak, and hen the trouble starts with pigs it is always fair assumption that the source of infection is ill that contained pieces of imported meat. unhappily for us and Argentina, neither chilling or freezing will destroy the virus of foot-and-mouth disease and there is bound to be a risk e feeding to pigs waste food from hotels and ospitals, unless it is thoroughly cooked to erilise the material effectively. As Argentina epects to ship more beef to the United King-om next year this unfortunate experience, oming at the time of the Smithfield Show, nderlines the importance of scrupulous atten-on to the disease safeguards which South merican countries undertake to apply to stock nsigned for slaughter and shipment to us.

This was the year of Aberdeen-Angus iumphant. The supreme championship and the reserve were both pure-bred. Coming from Vych Cross Estates at Birchgrove, near Hay-ards Heath, Sussex, the leading steer stood ne champion course well. He had won



THE CHAMPION HEIFER, Jesedor Erica of Douneside, an Aberdeen-Angus heifer, from MacRobert Farms (Douneside)

previously at Birmingham and Edinburgh and was certainly a superb example of the deep fleshed Aberdeen-Angus, weighing 10½ cwt. at just under two years old, and firm to the touch. A younger Aberdeen-Angus steer, 19 months old, took reserve honours for Messrs. J. Sainsbury. Their Kinermony Home Farm, Aberlour, Banffshire, produces fine stock. The best of the



STILL PONDERING OVER CHRISTMAS GIFTS?

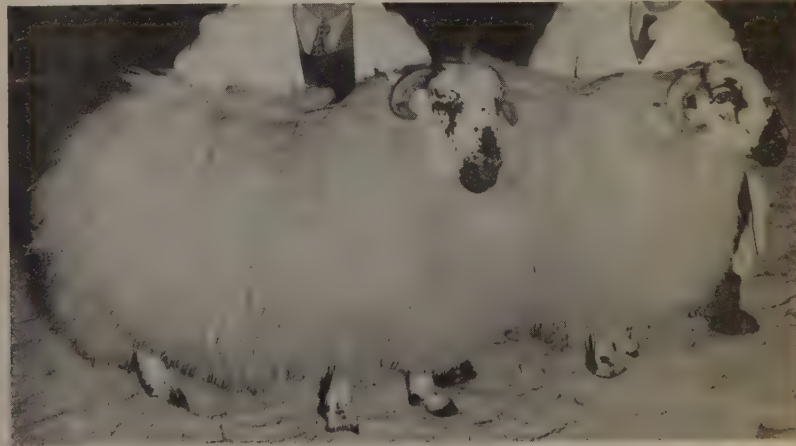
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heifers was perhaps unfortunate to come up against such strong male competition. Jesedor Erica of Douneside, from MacRobert Farms, was a fine specimen. An English bred baby steer, carrying Aberdeen-Angus, Shorthorn and Galloway blood, brought the Manor Farm and Stud, near Alresford, Hampshire, into the championship picture, but this was Scotland's year. In the carcass competition, too, there was an Aberdeen Angus win. Mr. W. R. Chapman, of Great Yarmouth, took top honours for a carcass from a beast that weighed just under 9 cwt.

Some magnificent Hampshire Downs won the sheep championship for Mr. Charles Clore, who recently purchased Lord Rootes's flock at Stype, near Hungerford, and Scottish Black-faced stood next.

The Welsh and Large White breeds came to the top in the pig section, the Welsh pair coming from the herd of Mrs. E. H. Watts and Mrs. J. Wilson, of Dunmow, Essex, and the Large Whites from Mr. H. A. Turner's herd near by at Little Canfield. Crossbred vigour was well demonstrated by the single pig champion, which had a Welsh sire and a dam carrying Large White and Berkshire blood. Obviously the breeders, F. J. Mortimer and Sons, of Longworth, near Abingdon, Berkshire, know their business; but what lessons, one wonders, can the Pig Industry Development Authority, with its accreditation herd scheme for pure bred pigs, draw from this pig's outstanding success at the Smithfield Show? Perhaps all of its immediate ancestors would have qualified for accreditation at an official testing station, or will the judgment of the successful breeder and feeder always count for more than precise measurements and calculations?



THE CHAMPION PEN OF SHEEP IN THE SHOW. Hampshire Downs owned by Mr. Charles Clore, of Hungerford, Berkshire, and bred by Lord Rootes. (Right) RESERVE CHAMPION PEN AND WINNERS OF THE PRINCE OF WALES PLATE. A pen of Scottish Blackface from A. H. and J. Stobo, of Berwick-on-Tweed

BELCHAMP HALL, ESSEX—I

THE HOME OF MR. AND MRS. S. P. ST. CLERE RAYMOND

By ARTHUR OSWALD

For nearly three and a half centuries the Belchamp Walter estate has been in the possession of the Raymonds. The present house, a beautiful example of Early-Georgian brickwork, was built by John Raymond about 1720, shortly before his death.

THERE are three Belchamp villages—St. Paul, Otton and Walter, reading from west to east—and they lie in that remote and delightfully unchanged part of Essex enclosed by three imaginary lines connecting Castle Hedingham, Sudbury and Clare. On the map one sees a maze of winding roads and lanes. These prove in actuality to have almost as many ups and downs as bends and corners, for the high ground is dissected by little valleys, running out from a wider one, along which flows the stream called the Belchamp Brook, heading for the Stour, which it joins near Sudbury. Belchamp Hall, half hidden in its trees, looks south-eastward down this delectable valley which seems, and is, so well named, although only by a happy Norman re-interpretation. Bylcham is the Saxon form in which the name first occurs. It is thought to mean the homestead on the ridge, and in fact all three villages are on a ridge, though Belchamp Walter has its church in the valley opposite the Hall (Fig. 4). Domesday Book has Belcamp, already given a Norman-French twist, and so it became the "fair field," sometimes Latinised in documents as (*de*) *Bello Campo*.

Belchamp St. Paul was a possession of St. Paul's Cathedral; Belchamp Otton commemorates a family who were hereditary Masters of the Mint, descended from Otto the goldsmith, who was the Domesday tenant of the neighbouring manor of Gestingthorpe. Belchamp Walter did not obtain its present suffix until the end of the 13th century. Earlier it had been Belchamp William and Belchamp Simon and sometimes Great Belchamp. Simon and William were members of the Beauchamp family, whose surname, though not derived from Belchamp, probably helped to fix the final "p." Walter



1.—BELCHAMP HALL IN 1804: AN ENGRAVING AFTER A DRAWING BY JOHN BRITTON, FROM *THE BEAUTIES OF ENGLAND AND WALES*

perpetuates the brief tenure of Sir Walter de Tey, husband of William de Beauchamp's great-grand-daughter, Isabel. The Beauchamps were feudal lords of Bedford, and they had acquired their Belchamp manor by marriage, holding it under the de Veres, Earls of Oxford, the lords of Castle Hedingham, whose Norman keep still dominates the country round it.

The founder of the great house of de Vere was Aubrey, the Albericus of Domesday Book. He was given by the Conqueror the estates of the English thegn, Ulwin or Wulfwin, which lay principally in the north of Essex, the south of Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. One of these was at "Belcamp," only a few miles from Hedingham. Aubrey, settled in England, must have



2.—LIGHT AND SHADOW ON THE LAWNS: THE ENTRANCE FRONT AND AN 18th-CENTURY URN



3.—EARLY-GEORGIAN BRICKWORK: THE ENTRANCE FRONT, FACING SOUTH-EAST

hed for the wines of France, for he experienced with vine-growing on his estates, with what success we do not know. He had a vineyard at Hedingham, a second at Lavenham in Suffolk and a third on his Middlesex manor of Kensington. There was a fourth at Belchamp, recently planted when the Domesday surveyors visited the manor. They record that there were 11 arpents of vineyards but only one arpent was bearing. (The arpent, a French measurement, seems to have been about five-tenths of an English acre.) Aubrey held the manor in demesne. It was a mixed farm—arable, meadow and woodland—carrying 28 head of cattle, 200 sheep, 100 pigs and 2 round-ays, worth in all £18, quite a high figure for the period.

The second Aubrey de Vere, whom Henry I made hereditary Great Chamberlain of England, gave his Belchamp manor in marriage with his daughter, Rohese, to Geoffrey Mandeville, Earl of Essex, after whose death it went to his second husband, Payn de Beauchamp, lord of Bedford. It passed to the latter's son, Simon, and then to his son, William, who succeeded his father about 1210 and died in 1260. None of William de Beauchamp's three sons survived him long. John, the youngest and last, was killed at Evesham in 1265, whereupon the Beauchamp barony and estates were divided between his three sisters, Maud, Beatrice and Ela. It was Ela's grand-daughter, Isabel, who married as her second husband the Walter de Grey who has transmitted his name to Belchamp Walter. Why he should have done so is difficult to explain, for Maud and his wife did not hold the whole estate, and the manor passed not to their descendants but to those of Beatrice de Beauchamp, the second of the three sisters. As late as 1552, however, the older suffix of William was still sometimes used. Possibly, Walter, being corrupted in local speech

to Water, seemed an appropriate description of the church and manor lying in the valley watered by the Belchamp Brook.

Beatrice de Beauchamp's first husband was Thomas Fitz Otho or Fitz Otes, descended from Otto the goldsmith. His estates included the neighbouring manor of Belchamp Otton. They had a daughter, Maud, who married Sir John de Botetourt, a distinguished soldier and naval commander in the reigns of the first two Edwards. He was Governor of St. Briavel's Castle in Gloucestershire (1291), Admiral of the Northern Seas (1294-7, and again 1315), Governor of Framlingham Castle, Suffolk (1314), and was summoned to Parliament as a baron from 1305 until his death in 1324. The barony, called out of abeyance in 1803 after centuries of dormancy, is now held by the Duke of Beaufort. One may suppose that of all the estates

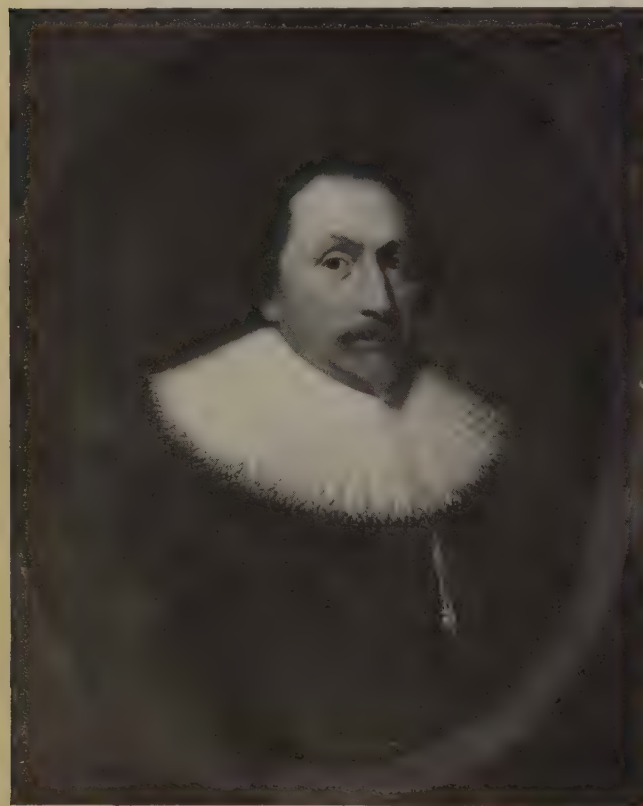
which Sir John de Botetourt's wife brought to him, the one that pleased him most was her Essex manor of Belchamp Walter, because he chose it for his burial place. The church has a 13th-century chancel, a wide, unaisled nave, which was rebuilt early in the 14th century, perhaps by Sir John de Botetourt, and a Perpendicular west tower. On the north side of the nave there is a remarkably elaborate wall recess (Fig. 8) with cinquefoiled arch, cusped and sub-cusped, richly crocketed label rising to a central finial, and flanking buttresses and pinnacles. The design and carving have all the luxuriance of the Decorated style as it was nearing its culmination. No inscription survives, but the shields of Fitz Otes and Botetourt leave one in no doubt as to whom the monument commemorated, though it must remain uncertain whether it was erected by Botetourt in



4.—THE SOUTH END OF THE HOUSE AND THE CHURCH TOWER FROM THE TERRACE WALK



5.—A GROUP OF PORTRAITS IN THE DINING-ROOM. (Left to right) OLIVER RAYMOND (DIED 1679); HIS WIFE, FRANCES HARRIS, PAINTED IN 1639; THE REVEREND SAMUEL RAYMOND (DIED 1825), BY JOHN SIMPSON



6.—JOHN RAYMOND, PURCHASER OF THE BELCHAMP WALTER ESTATE, BY CORNELIUS JOHNSON, SIGNED AND DATED 1627

his lifetime or by his widow after his death. Originally it formed the opening to a little chantry chapel, built out on the north side of the church. This was destroyed, probably in the 16th century, but the springers of its vaulted roof can be seen on the inner side of the arch. If there were effigies of Sir John and his lady they have disappeared. At Great Leighs church near Chelmsford there is a rather similar tomb recess, though not quite so elaborate, on the north side of the chancel.

The second son of Sir John and Maud de Botetourt inherited his mother's Essex estates, including Belchamp Walter. He and his son were both named John. After the latter's death the manor passed through heiresses to the Swynborne, Helion and Tyrell families, coming eventually to Sir Roger Wentworth, who kept his court at Belchamp Walter in February, 1539, and died later that year. His father was second son of Sir Roger Wentworth, of Nettlestead in Suffolk, and founded an Essex branch of the family, whose seat in Queen Elizabeth's reign was Gosfield

Hall (near Halstead), which has recently been saved from demolition. Gosfield was one of the estates brought to Sir Roger Wentworth by his wife, Anne Tyrell. If Belchamp Walter was place of residence of its owners in the days of the Botetourts, it does not seem to have been in the Wentworths' time, when it was only one of many Essex manors in their possession. It is interesting to find that the overlordship of the de Veres was still recognised. John Wentworth of Gosfield, who died in 1588, was stated to have held the manor of Belchamp Walter of the Earl of Oxford by the service of two knights' fees. The last of the Wentworths, also John, dissipated his inheritance. Knighted in 1601 and created a baronet in 1611, he had sold most of his estates before his death in 1631. Belchamp was bought by John Raymond and has belonged to his descendants ever since.

In the Wentworths' time the manor house, if one existed, was probably in the hands of tenants, but John Raymond made Belchamp his home. He was of a Hertfordshire family, descended from Philip Raymond, of Hunsdon who in 1470 had married an heiress, Agnes, daughter of William Stern, of Essendon. John Raymond came from Essendon. The old house, which may have been one of the timber and plaster Halls so frequent in Essex, is believed to have been Elizabethan and to have had wings facing north. It was pulled down early in George I's reign when the present house was built, but there is panelling of Elizabethan or Jacobean date in the dining-room and some upstairs rooms, and this was, no doubt, taken from the old Hall and re-used. In the dining-room there is a portrait of John Raymond by



7.—FRANCES, WIFE OF SIR WILLIAM HARRIS, OF SHENFIELD (1596). The gun, pistol, powder flask and chest are associated with her husband, who is said to have captured a Spanish ship in the defeat of the Armada

nelius Johnson (Fig. 6). It is a handsome d that emerges from the wide, falling lace. Like so many of Johnson's portraits, it has signed oval enclosing it. It is signed with his initials and dated 1627. Three years ago this trait was shown in the Winter Exhibition at Arlington House.

John Raymond married Anne Sparrow, the daughter of a neighbour, John Sparrow, of Stoughton. His son, Oliver, who succeeded him in 1635, was a barrister and sat as one of the knights of the shire in the two Parliaments of 1653 and 1656 during the Protectorate. He is seen on the left of the group of portraits over the sideboard in the dining-room (Fig. 5). In the middle is his wife, Frances (by whom he had children); she was painted in 1639, perhaps by Johnson. Her father was Sir William Harris or Harrys, of Shenfield, between Brentford and Chelmsford, and his portrait and her mother's also hang in the dining-room. Her mother, née Frances Astley, wearing a beautifully embroidered dress and lace ruff of almost peerless fineness, was painted by an artist highly skilled in rendering the details of Elizabethan costume (Fig. 7). This portrait and the companion one of Sir William Harris are both dated 1596, but the particulars of the sitters' faces were never filled in. Sir William was knighted in 1603. Through his great-granddaughter, Joan Percy, who married Arthur Harris, the Raymonds are able to claim a line of descent from Edward III.

According to family tradition, Sir William Harris commanded a ship that took part in the defeat of the Spanish Armada and, having captured a Spanish vessel, became possessed of a gun, pistol and powder flask and the iron chest seen grouped together in Fig. 7, also of a 17th-century Flemish altar-piece depicting the

Adoration of the Magi. The gun is a snaphaunce musket, having the stock and butt inlaid with fish, birds, snails and other creatures among scrolling floral designs. The date 1588 appears on the end of the butt. The pistol is a wheel-lock, of approximately the same date, and rather similarly inlaid. I am told on expert authority that the pistol is of German manufacture but that the gun is a rare English example.

Oliver Raymond died in 1679. He was succeeded by his grandson, John, whose father, St. Clere Raymond, the eldest surviving son, is said to have been disinherited for marrying against his father's wishes. This John, who was at Jesus College, Cambridge, and later of Gray's Inn, died comparatively young, in 1690, when he was succeeded by his son, also John, the builder of the present house.

There is no date on the house, but it is known to have been barely completed when its builder died. The date of John Raymond's death is given on the family monument as February 21, 1720, by which 1721 is probably meant, since the year at that time was still



9.—THE RAYMOND MONUMENT IN THE CHANCEL OF BELCHAMP WALTER CHURCH, BY ROBERT TAYLOR, SENIOR

officially reckoned as beginning on March 25. This monument, presumably erected by John Raymond's uncle and successor, William, is on the north side of the chancel (Fig. 9). It bears the signature of Robert Taylor, the father of the architect, Sir Robert, who had such an extensive practice during the second half of the 18th century. The elder Taylor was not only a mason and statuary of some eminence but a successful building contractor. The possibility that he had been employed by John Raymond on his house seems worth consideration.

What John Raymond built was a compact, convenient and pleasant house of excellent brickwork, with a front nine bays wide and of two storeys below a cornice and solid parapet (Fig. 3). It is beautifully set off by the surrounding trees, the spacious lawns and circular sweep of drive, and it charms the eye by its warm, rich colour and the deft management of the details. Pilaster strips alternate with down-pipes bearing the Raymond crest, breaking up the façade vertically; the windows have emphasised keystones and neat apron-pieces below the sills. The central bay is given a little pediment and narrower pilasters confined to the upper storey. These dressings are all of a rich red brick, the walling of cream-coloured stock. Comparison with the engraving of 1804 (Fig. 1) shows that the porch is a 19th-century addition, but its front reproduces the original treatment, and it retains the pair of urns seen in the print. This engraving is after a drawing by John Britton made for the 5th volume of *The Beauties of England and Wales*. The treatment of the roof is curious. It is hipped behind the parapet, but the upper part of the ridge is prolonged to impinge against the chimney-stacks at either end.

As the print shows, the plan of the house was originally a plain rectangle, though it is made to appear much narrower than it really is. Some additions, carried out by the present owner's grandfather about 80 years ago, faithfully reproduce the details of the entrance front, so that the effect is perfectly harmonious. A short wing was built out at the north-west angle, and the three-sided bay was added on the south side (Fig. 4), its windows looking out beside a large magnolia on to a pleasant little garden with an old mulberry tree on one side of it. The photograph, which brings out the relationship between the house and the church, was taken from a raised terrace walk, which runs eastward, shaded by Scotch firs, and terminates with an ivy-clad summer-house, built by one of John Raymond's successors. Over its Gothic arch there appears in Latin the charmingly appropriate text from Psalm xvi: *Fortuna mea in bello campo*.

(To be concluded)



—14th-CENTURY WALL RECESS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE NAVE. It formed the opening to a chantry chapel with a tomb commemorating Sir John de Botetourt (died 1324) and his wife, Maud Fitz Otes

NEW BOOKS

REVALUING VICTORIAN CERAMICS

THE continued interest in what has come to be known as Victoriana is nowhere so marked as in the realm of ceramics. This is doubtless occasioned by the growing body of collectors for whom the possession of a Chelsea figure or a Toft dish is no more than a pipe dream. Nineteenth-century pottery and porcelain is still plentiful and often cheap, though prices advance with increased demand. But guidance is very necessary. No period in our history produced so many examples of bad taste or so much that aimed at moral enlightenment and succeeded only in creating a feeling of æsthetic gloom.

Oddly enough this interest in Victoriana is of fairly recent date, and charming trifles that could be had before the war for a pound or 30 shillings are fast acquiring values that put them beyond the reach of the Saturday collector. With this extension of the field of collecting has come a number of books that have catered for this interest, and Mr. Bernard Hughes has now written *Victorian Pottery and Porcelain* (COUNTRY LIFE, £2 12s. 6d.). Mr. Hughes has already given us a work on Spode and, with his wife, a book on English porcelain and bone china. Two recent encyclopædias by other authors have given generous consideration to the Victorian wares. Welsh porcelain, Newhall, and Staffordshire figures have called forth excellent monographs.

Re-appraisal of the Period

All these have led to a re-appraisal of the 19th-century wares and revealed new avenues to the collector that are well worthy of his interest. The author's concern is not so much with aesthetics as with facts, and much laborious research has gone to the making of this excellent work, which must be regarded as a *vade mecum* by the enthusiast for Victorian ceramics.

The author ranges from so-called dry bodies, through printed wares, both blue and polychrome, to lustre in its many forms and ironstone china. In his treatment of all these types he brings a great deal of information that is available only in the form of catalogues and magazine articles, some of great rarity.

His account of the 19th-century porcelains is of necessity brief, but all the important information is given. Among the lesser known wares he deals with lithophanes, mocha and "Welsh" wares and the very appealing colour-slipped mugs and jugs which evidently circulated in a low-price market. The latter are excellent material for the collector.

The book bears evidence of hasty construction and some repetition and will need revision when, as seems certain, a second edition is called for.

G. B.

AN IRISH WALTON?

TO contemplate is the privilege of every disciple of Walton; but how many are equipped mentally to make full use of contemplation? Dr. A. A. Luce, of Trinity College, Dublin, is endowed with a scholarly brain, well able to work out the why and wherefore of everything concerned with fishing.

In *Fishing and Thinking* (Hodder and Stoughton, 16s.) he has written a book that the master himself would have found to his liking; for practical angling and philosophical and logical thinking march hand in hand. Indeed, if Dr. Luce had omitted the chapters on spate rivers and another concerning the ethics of angling, he might well have earned the title of the Irish Walton.

The author investigates the problems that confront the salmon and trout fisherman and, because he is a

scholar and a divine, wise phrases and sensible conclusions are the outcome of his probing. For instance: "The vast improvement in the casting power of reels which has outstripped (dare I say it?) the improvement in manners and consideration of others" or, with reference to the boredom of trolling, "one needs a reel that talks" to relieve it; or again, concerning a day when nothing is rising, "the longer the sulk the nearer the rise." There is wisdom in all this and on most of the pages until Dr. Luce attempts to grind two axes that have troubled him. First, he seems to think that the owner of a spate river should close his eyes to

piscatorial degree. Or should it be withheld until he realises that perch are good to eat?

R. B.

DEER IN FORESTED COUNTRY

ON the Continent, deer have long been considered as a valued by-product, or game crop, of the forests, and not, as has so long been the case in Britain, as unwelcome intruders. In Scotland the red deer inhabit for the most part a desolate country, forest in name only, but elsewhere, owing to the vast reforestation programme that has been, and is being, undertaken by the Forestry Commission and private enterprise, extensive tracts of true

and maintenance of a balance population and sex ratio, can be fitted into the general economy.

Sex Ratio in Deer

To those who are familiar with the sight of a single stag in Scotland herding together perhaps 30 or more hinds, the author's view on deer density and sex ratio may raise an eyebrow. For red deer he recommends a maximum density varying from one deer per 250 acres on the very best type of ground (luscious growth of deciduous and coniferous trees with small fields, etc.) to one deer per 600 acres for moorland, as one might find in Scotland. Compare this with the picture in Scotland to-day of approximately one deer per 50 acres, with a density on some forests as high as 1:15. This is too high, of course. On the question of sex ratio he suggests—as, indeed, do most Continental authorities—that our aim should be 1 to 1, and that for roe a ratio of one buck to three does is admissible.

He explains the use and construction of *high seats*—so essential in woodland stalking—and also the use of the call. Such methods are sometimes criticised as being unsportsmanlike, but I have never understood why. It takes great skill to call a deer during the rut out of dense cover, and shooting from a high seat in flat forest country is not only entirely safe, but should ensure selective shooting—which is the essence of game management. Other chapters cover spooring and tracking, deer recognition, choice of rifle and antlers. His chapter, *The Behaviour of Deer on Being Shot*, based on that German classic *Das Rehwild*, by F. von Raesfeld, is one that should be studied by anyone who ventures to raise a rifle at deer, for many a wounded beast has been lost unnecessarily owing to lack of knowledge.

Not all of his conclusions concur with my own experience. For instance, he states that the "herds of stags split up two months before the rutting season opens," which would suggest that the stag parties break up in mid-July before their antlers are clean of velvet. This is certainly not the case in Scotland, where the break-up generally takes place in September. Nor is it, I would suggest, "four to six weeks" before a red deer calf is "normally" able to follow its mother.

G. K. W.

SURVEY FOR HORSEMEN

UNPOSED photographs, most of them from the north, illustrate Sydney Moorhouse's comments on the Horse in Country Pageantry in *The Horseman's Year*, 1960, edited by Dorian Williams (Collins, 18s.). These photographs provide a curious contrast to the many other excellent pictures of racing, showing, show-jumping and polo, all most competitive sports, which are indeed a part of the countryside, but which somehow lack the down-to-earth realism of, say, the horse being run up in hand at a country sale, that illustrates this section. The Kiplingcotes Derby, a race not "under Rules," which is run in March on the Yorkshire Wolds and has been run since, it is believed, about the year 1530, is most entertainingly described by Mr. Moorhouse.

A Commonwealth Survey of horsemanship in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India and Malaya is another most worth-while section; so are the Foxhunting, National Hunt, Combined Training, Point-to-Point, Polo, Horse Show and Show-Jumping Retrospects. Mr. R. S. Summerhays writes on Breeding for Bone.

My only criticism of this excellent book is the mis-spelling of various names, varying from that of Sheila Willcox to Judge Wylie.

P. H.



SHEPHERD OF THESSALY, PHOTOGRAPHED BY SABINE WEISS. From *Photography Year Book*, published by *Photography Magazine* (Great Britain), 30s.

those, unbidden, that fish his water; and, second, he seeks, by argument, to justify the case that there is no cruelty in fishing.

These are subjects which spoil the charm of *Fishing and Thinking*; they are contentious and upset the sensations at a time when the approach to contemplation is holding the reader and giving him great enjoyment. Whether or not the two chapters have the same effect on all who read them in conjunction with the rest of the book is a matter of personal taste.

The seeking of a solution to an incredible day on the old King's river, the literary appreciation of and enquiry into Yeats's *The Fisherman*, and what Dr. Luce writes about gillies provide first-rate entertainment, as do the author's quotations from the Bible and elsewhere. If only he could have avoided the two subjects which for long he must have wished to put down in writing, I should not hesitate to recommend him for the highest

forest now exist. These are gradually being populated by deer, principally roe, but also red and fallow.

The control and conservation of deer in heavily forested country demands a completely different technique from that employed on the bare mountains of Scotland, and A. J. de Nahlik, the author of *Wild Deer* (Faber, 70s.) is particularly well qualified to give advice in such matters, for he has had many years of practical experience not only in his native Poland but also in Germany, Austria and Britain.

As the author points out, "Damage by game is inevitable. . . . The larger the animal searching for food, the greater the damage; the greater the cost of upkeep of deer. It is necessary, therefore, to strike a balance between the value of game, be it big or small, and the value of the damage." He suggests how deer, if treated as a game crop, which involves the elimination of poor specimens, provision of adequate food

RS DESCRIBED

THE M.G. A 1600

By J. EASON GIBSON

THE M.G. Co. have recently modified their A model in a few aspects, which have had the effect of converting the car to such an extent that it can justifiably be described as a new model. In common with the method followed by other manufacturers, the wise step has been taken of increasing the engine capacity, which allows the overall performance to be improved without the disadvantage likely to result from obtaining more power from the smaller engine unit previously used.

The engine capacity has been increased from 1,489 c.c. to 1,588 c.c., which has had the effect of increasing the power output from 72 b.h.p. to 80 b.h.p., with a secondary benefit that this appreciable power increase has been obtained at 100 r.p.m. more. The increase in capacity has had the effect of increasing the torque at lower engine speeds; this might not have been the case if the previous engine had been kept in more or less tuned form. The overhead valves are now operated and the compression ratio is now 10 to 1, which means that premium-grade fuel can be used. As one would expect on a car of such a high potential performance, a full-flow oil filter is fitted. Because of the modest dimensions one might expect that engine components would not be very accessible, but in fact most items likely to require attention can be reached easily; the bonnet opens widely, which helps accessibility.

One item in the chassis specification sets the present model apart from its immediate predecessor—that is, the adoption of disc brakes on the front wheels. The front wheels are independently suspended by means of coil springs and shock absorbers, and the rear suspension is by semi-elliptic leaf springs. The rack and pinion steering is high geared and requires only 2½ turns from lock to lock. The turning circle is reasonably small. Although the total braking system is a blend of disc and drum, the operation is still the same as the Lockheed hydraulic system, and the hand-brake lever is conveniently placed beside the driver's left side. It must be pointed out, however, that when one is attired in heavy winter clothing the lever can be a trifle elusive. Under hard driving conditions the fuel tank capacity of 10 gallons is a little on the small side, but this allows for a range between fuel stops of up to about 240 miles. The falling lines of the car probably prevents the use of a larger tank. Because of the car's short wheelbase it has been possible to make it rigid, without resorting to specialised design features.

At first glance the interior of the car appears cramped, but experience shows there is ample room for most people. I was surprised to find that the central dividing armrest had not been added to provide a handy storage space for small articles. While the driving position is generally good, there are a few small items which detract

from the driver's complete comfort. The dipping switch appeared to me to be awkwardly placed, the mirror reduced vision on left-hand corners and certain of the minor controls on the fascia were tucked behind the steering wheel. Were it not for the centrally mounted loudspeaker for the wireless, the controls could be well grouped in the centre of the fascia. To obtain an efficient driving position most people, even if only of average height, would require the driving seat to be adjusted backwards as far as possible. With the hood erected the latest M.G. is an easy car to park.

If speed is essential when the hood needs to be erected, it is better for two people to do the erecting. The luggage boot also contains the spare wheel, and as a result its capacity is limited to two small cases; serious touring would require the fitting of a luggage rack above the tail. With the hood and side screens erected the car is reasonably snug, although a large gap between the sliding side screens and the windscreen could produce a cutting draught in below-freezing temperatures. Naturally such a car cannot be locked; because of this it would be

caused no fading whatever. A good feature of the braking is that the available power is nicely balanced between the four wheels, and maximum effort can be applied without any worry about locking wheels or other type of instability. Over 70 m.p.h. can be obtained on third gear, with the result that 80 m.p.h. can be reached quickly on most main roads, after one has passed slower traffic or left a restricted area. Second gear is slightly on the low side, giving a maximum speed of over 40 m.p.h., but this avoids the necessity of using bottom gear. At extremely low engine speeds power is slightly lacking, but the convenience of the gear change makes this no worry.

The benefits of rack and pinion steering are noticeable. The steering is positive and precise and completely free from the vagueness and "sponginess" noticed on many modern cars. There is a little evidence of the only shortcomings possible with rack and pinion steering—slight heaviness at low speeds and the transmission of road shocks through to the driver's hands; the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages. The precision of the steering



THE M.G. A 1600. It is sturdily built and has good acceleration and braking

helpful if it were fitted with a lockable cubby hole.

The M.G. A is far from being an easy car to enter for anyone of appreciably over-average height, but once ensconced the driver feels very much in control. Only a few miles are required, even in town driving, to make one realise that the increased engine power, in conjunction with the retention of the earlier gear ratio, has made a most noticeable difference to the performance. Neither a chronometer nor study of the speedometer is really necessary to make one feel the greatly improved acceleration that prevails through the speed range. There were occasions when the car felt slightly harsh, if being accelerated very hard in one of the lower gears. This slight harshness seemed to have no relation to either exhaust or engine noise, and I gained the impression that it might be traceable to resonance transmitted through the exhaust pipe's attachment to the chassis on the car tested.

On the open road I found the car brisk and agile from point to point, particularly on the type of road one tends to use nowadays to avoid over-busy main roads. The good performance under these conditions could not be ascribed to any one feature, but rather to the pleasant homogeneity of the car as a whole. The performance of the engine, the well-chosen gear ratios and the security granted by the Lockheed brakes all contribute to it and to the driver's confidence. The brakes contain a surprising reserve of stopping power, and there are few occasions when maximum pedal pressure has to be applied. Because I was very impressed with the brakes right from the start of my test I made deliberate efforts to find fault with them, but repeated applications from high speed

assists in making this an easy car to drive at above-average speeds, especially on roads where one is free to enjoy fast cornering. Much of the driver's feeling of confidence is no doubt due to the rigidity of the box-section chassis, and the fact that the scuttle is an integral part of the chassis eliminates flexibility. As the M.G. A is a car of sporting type, it is sensible that the suspension is appreciably firmer than on present-day touring cars. As a result a very flat ride is given, and roll on fast corners is almost completely absent.

With the hood erected the noise rises noticeably, almost entirely owing to wind roar and the fluttering of the hood. Under these conditions one's doubt about the value of having a wireless fitted to the car is increased, as it is well-nigh impossible to hear anything being broadcast. The two large door pockets prove useful for carrying odds and ends. A detachable hardtop is available as an optional extra; with this fitted the car is to all intents and purposes converted to a coupé. With the hardtop fitted the lines of the car are, if anything, improved. The lights on the car tested were especially good, providing both a long beam for fast driving and a wide beam in the dipped position. A map-reading light is fitted on the fascia in front of the passenger, and the instrument lighting, which is rheostatically controlled, casts no worrying reflections on the windscreen.

Because the M.G. A is not strictly a sports car, in its standard form, many motorists will regard it as an opportunity to enjoy open-car motoring. With the type of summer we have just enjoyed it would be an ideal car for those to whom greater passenger and luggage space is not an essential.

THE M.G. A 1600

Makers: M.G. Car Co., Abingdon, Berkshire.

SPECIFICATION

Price	£940 7s. 6d.	Brakes	Lockheed hydraulic (disc front)
Including P.T.	£277 7s. 6d.)	Suspension	Independent (front)
Engine Capacity	1,588 c.c.	Wheelbase	7 ft. 10 ins.
Valve and Stroke		Track (front)	3 ft. 11½ ins.
	75.39 x 88.9 mm.	Track (rear)	4 ft. 0½ in.
Cylinders	Four	Overall length	13 ft. 0 ins.
Valves	Overhead pushrod	Overall width	4 ft. 10 ins.
R.p.m.	79.5 at 5,600 r.p.m.	Overall height	4ft. 2 ins.
Fuel	Twin S.U.	Ground clearance	6 ins.
Injection	Coil	Turning circle	30 ft.
Oil filter	Full-flow	Weight	18½ cwt.
1st gear	15.652 to 1	Fuel capacity	10 galls.
2nd gear	9.520 to 1	Oil capacity	8 pints
3rd gear	5.908 to 1	Water capacity	10 pints
4th gear	4.3 to 1	Tyres	Dunlop 5.60 x 15
Final drive	Hypoid bevel		

PERFORMANCE

Acceleration		Maximum speed	97 m.p.h.
3rd	Top	Petrol consumption	
50	10.7 secs.	25 m.p.g. at average	
60	11.5 secs.	speed of 50 m.p.h.	
0 (all gears)	13.7 secs.		

BRAKES: 30 to 0 in 30 feet (100 per cent. efficiency)

HARD WINTERS IN THE DAYS OF SAIL

By MICHAEL R. BOUQUET



1.—THE SCHOONER *SETH JR.* IN THE ICE AT LOUISBURG, NOVA SCOTIA, IN 1913. "There she lies amid the floating ice, her masts and rigging outlined against a grey winter sky"

I MUST confess to a sentimental attachment to Robert Louis Stevenson's poem *Christmas at Sea*, a piece typical of its period and of its author. It begins:

The sheets were frozen hard, and they cut the naked hand;

The decks were like a slide where a seaman scarce could stand.

Perhaps the whole poem is too full of the stock properties of 19th-century narrative—the son who had run away to sea, his aged parents, the old home, and the spice of danger and action

upon that cold Christmas morn. It goes on to tell the story of a sailing ship outward bound in the winter time, embayed upon a lee shore.

All day we tack'd and tack'd between the South Head and the North;

All day we hauled the frozen sheets, and got no further forth.

It was no far-off desolate shore upon that vessel's lee, for beyond the breakers and the cliffs were houses with chimneys smoking and windows sparkling in the winter sunshine.

They lit the high sea-light, and the dawn began to fall.

"All hands to loose topgallant sails!" I heard the captain call.

"By the Lord, she'll never stand it," our first mate Jackson cried,

... "It's one way or the other, Mr. Jackson," he replied.

Christmas at Sea is a poem of the 19th century, and though it may not be to our taste to-day, it describes a contemporary situation. To-day we have progressed so far in our mastery over the forces of nature that much of it seems unreal and meaningless. But in the days of sail the winter months brought their own peculiar hazards and trials. For those ships which traded overseas—to North America or to the Baltic—there were the dangers and delays of winter ice. Fig. 1 shows the Nova Scotia schooner *Seth Jr.*, photographed in the ice at Louisburg near Cape Breton in 1913. The *Seth Jr.* was one of those powerful and lofty vessels built in great numbers in the maritime provinces of Eastern Canada. There she lies amid the floating ice, her masts and rigging outlined against a grey winter sky; and in the distance the timber houses and the pine forests—winter scene in the Maritimes, and a view from the vanished days of sail.

Here in the British Isles one does not expect continental extremes of climate, such as are experienced in Canada or Russia. On our English coasts winter brings to the seafarer long succession of gales, which in the days of sail made a vessel's progress slow indeed. It was infrequent for ships to be frozen-up for weeks at a time, but Fig. 2, taken on the River Parret at Bridgwater, Somerset, in January, 1880, shows the river completely frozen over, and four ships—a schooner, a steamer, a smack and ketch—lying on the banks surrounded by a mass of ice. It is a photograph which has something of the quality of an old Dutch painting about it—a feeling of hard, bitter weather, cold so intense that life and motion seem to have vanished from the frozen landscape. Yet there is, too, the indefinable atmosphere of the 19th century about this particular photograph.



2.—SHIPPING IN THE FROZEN RIVER PARRET AT BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET, IN JANUARY, 1880. "The photograph has something of the quality of an old Dutch painting about it"

atmosphere of the days of small wooden sailing ships, untarred roads, gaslight and billycock hats.

The schooner on the left is the *Octavius*, 100 tons, built at Bridgwater in 1878 by Over and Son, at one of the three shipyards which once existed in this Somerset seaport. She carried many cargoes of local bricks out of the port: brick and tile making and the export of these local products in local vessels were for long the staple industries of the district, giving employment to hundreds of men. This particular winter photograph was taken in the days when the life of provincial England still centred on the intensive exploitation of local resources by men working at ancient crafts.

One does not expect to experience heavy falls of snow in South Devon or Cornwall, but in December, 1906, there was a light fall in the Tamar valley near Calstock and Bere Alston, a fall enough to whiten the ground and the branches of the apple trees (Fig. 3). This light fall covered the decks, the spars and the furling sails of two sailing vessels lying in the Tamar, discharging coal for the local mines—a long narrow-gutted schooner and an attractive little ketch. Their coal is being dug out of their holds by hand, loaded into baskets, winched up by pulleys and on to a staging hung in the rigging some ten feet above the deck, tipped into a barrow, and finally wheeled by hand along a narrow plank to the railway trucks in their siding. One can see the staging and the planks clearly enough in the photograph. Above the ketch one can distinguish a loaded barrow ready to be wheeled along the plank, and a man above the railway truck ready to receive it. It seems



3.—UNLOADING COAL AT CALSTOCK, CORNWALL, IN DECEMBER, 1906

incredible that within the last half century coal was still being manhandled out of vessels in this slow and laborious fashion.

These three old winter photographs seem to me significant not simply because of their wintry backgrounds—after all, ice and snow were much the same 50 years ago as they are

to-day. Their interest lies in their portrayal of long-vanished ships in settings that are familiar, and yet strange and evocative. Like Stevenson's Christmas poem, these old pictures portray a world and a life that has utterly vanished.

Illustrations: 1, Nautical Photo Agency; 2, James Dew; 3, Eric Pengelly.

SHOULD GAME-LICENCE HOLDERS BE TESTED?

Changing Conditions of Shooting and the Consequences

By ROY BEDDINGTON

SHOOTING like most other things has, during the past quarter of a century, suffered a revolution. Pheasants, partridges and other sporting birds have been subjected to a slaughter no longer remedied by extensive rearing. Whereas man himself is responsible directly for the game that is shot, he is also from force of circumstance to blame both for the lack of his own kind, in the shape of keepers, to protect the birds from vermin, and for the improvements that have caused the land itself to be less suitable for game.

The reason for this metamorphosis is partly economic, partly social. The old order has changed; once every shoot was in the hands of one owner, who treated it with the care that merited, shot it on a long-term basis and always tried to leave sufficient stock for the years ahead. At the same time, woods and fields were kept and vermin controlled. The owner asked his friends to share a day's sport. Wages were low; labour was plentiful; rearing was inexpensive, as were beaters and cartridges, and the landowners could afford, at their own expense, the shooting rights. Syndicates were very rare.

Farmers Indifferent

Farmers were seldom keen on the sport, preferring for the most part to let the shooting. Artificial fertilisers were little used and spraying was a thing of the future. High-powered cultivation, with its insecticides and selective weed-killers, was not yet a danger to the game, which was plentiful and which, because much less ground was tilled, was better provided with resting places and cover. Myxomatosis was a long way off, so that the rabbit always provided some sport when birds were hard to find.

To-day the shoots that are owned and financed by one person are the exception, just as, in many shooting districts, is the farmer who does not himself shoot. Syndicates are prevalent all over the country; but they vary in their constitution and their control.

First, there is the owner who cannot afford to pay his keeper or keepers and maintain the sport to which in the past he has been accustomed. What does he do? He may continue to manage the shoot and each day's shooting himself, but, instead of asking his friends to share the sport as guests, he may let guns to the

same friends and continue in much the same way as before, without the expense to his own pocket. The next method is to maintain control, and let to strangers who are willing to pay to be members of a well-known shoot and enjoy its amenities. In these two categories the owner remains the host; the members of the syndicate are still guests, even if they help to foot the bill.

A third possibility is for the owner to abandon control, keep a gun for himself and treat the operation as a financial enterprise for the whole syndicate, sharing among them the proceeds of the game sold and the expenses entailed. Finally, the owner may let his shoot to a syndicate for a fixed sum and leave the members of it to do as they please on the land.

At the same time, seven or eight farmers may now join together and shoot over one another's land for their mutual enjoyment or, on occasion, for their mutual gain, seeking to destroy as much game as possible to pay for their sport or even to make a profit.

Usually there was good fellowship between neighbours, who shot with one another and who kept to a code of etiquette, abstaining from shooting where they might upset their friends. To-day, however, where a syndicate is not controlled by an owner versed in such etiquette, stories of acts of slaughter are sometimes well founded.

Some syndicates lack respect for the future of their own ground or that of their neighbours, especially where the neighbour is a rearer of pheasants. A syndicate which walks up birds adjacent to such a shoot, where driving is the means employed, is a menace to any keeper. Every Saturday, sometimes more frequently, the syndicate, perhaps comprising as many as twelve or thirteen guns, may march in open order round the boundary, picking off every bird that rises, whether it be a hen late in the season or a half-fledged squeaker in early October. Sometimes such shooters are of greater danger to their companions than to the game they flush, but they wound many birds, and because they are ill-supplied with dogs, may leave some birds, which on a properly controlled shoot would be picked up before further progress was made, to linger and die.

Such behaviour is largely due to ignorance. To me they are guilty of crimes that bring into

disrepute a sport previously above reproach. They give ammunition to the enemies of field sports. But, if they do not know what they do, it is high time that they learned. The walked-up pheasant, which suffers most, is an easy shot. If it is killed, the shooter has not been very clever and, if it is missed or wounded, he has been stupid and may well reproach himself.

Many of the Saturday marauders fire at birds almost out of range; indeed they seem to fire at anything within their range of vision, to the discomfort of the bird, because they prick it, and to the chagrin of themselves because it does not fall. The partridge and the grouse are particularly prone to long-distance attack because, not infrequently, one pellet will bring either down, even if the fall does not kill.

Deplorable Tactics

Such tactics are to be deplored; but at a time when shooting has become the sport of so many newcomers, unless there is some means of educating this new type of sportsman in the proper use of a gun, the proper management of a shoot and the proper etiquette of a sportsman, the outlook for shooting is not bright. The increase in the number of those who elect to shoot has resulted in too many guns pursuing too few birds on too small an acreage, so that there is no long-term plan for many syndicates and, because the members of them change from year to year, there is likely to be a diminution of game throughout the British Isles.

We pass tests for driving a car, even for riding a bicycle with an auxiliary engine. Is the time not ripe for some kind of certificate to be required before a man or woman is considered fit to obtain a game licence? Just as there is a code for the road, there is a code for the hill, the moor, the open fields and the coverts, a code that ensures the safety of those who seek their sport there and that includes a thought for the future of the birds and beasts that inhabit them. At the moment those who break the code are few in number, many of them obsessed by the very newness, to them, of a pastime that is part of the heritage of field sports. In this country we do not want to turn our shoots into an indiscriminate playground for *la chasse*. Some of those who make up syndicates to-day have much about them of the *chasseurs* that prize the downfall of a blackbird.

FIVE CENTURIES OF TIN WARE

By G. BERNARD HUGHES

WHERE, one may wonder, is the homely tin ware of past centuries? A vast quantity of antique pewter domestic ware decorates the homes of collectors, who delight in its close surface texture and the delicate bloom that beautifies its subdued grey. Strangely enough, domestic ware made of solid tin appears to be virtually non-existent to-day, although it was made in almost equally large quantities. In the cellars of Mamhead, Devon, however, Sir Ralph Newman, Bart., has discovered an unusual collection of tin flatware—more than sixty dishes, plates and soup plates in pure tin worked from the solid metal and not to be confused with tin plate. Some of this ware is unused and remains almost as bright and as unsullied as when it was made two centuries ago. Other pieces betray evidence of long use, displaying criss-cross scorings of many knives, and a few plates have been repaired. Many are engraved on the rim with the cypher of Sir Robert William Newman (1776-1848) and an inventory number; others are back stamped with the initials HN, for Holdsworth Newman (1744-1783). The unused tin ware in the Newman collection has remained unaffected by oxidation; the used pieces are grey but lack the patina associated with pewter.

So far as is known at present, this is the only considerable collection of Georgian tin ware. Because of the high price of tin—it is now quoted at £795 a ton—such metal was long ago sold to scrap merchants. Georgian specimens may be distinguished from the earlier and more silvery hard tin ware by their faintly yellowish tinge, present because tin workers could no longer obtain ingots of fine tin from Cornwall. This change in the quality of Cornish tin also affected the silvery sheen of new pewter, although to a lesser extent. It was in 1706 that, as reported in the *London Gazette*, the Cornish tin suppliers evolved "a new method of converting tin ore [tin crushed, washed and otherwise prepared for smelting] into white tin [refined metallic tin]." Until then each Cornish tin mine smelted its own ore, so that each maintained its personal quality. In working the new process the proprietors of large tin mines and groups of small mines, operating a policy of communal smelting, mixed the various ores and produced a standard quality of tin and no other. This was described in the *London Gazette* as "unfitt for an abundance of uses wherein Tin is consumed, its quality and lustre being changed," and it had a devastating effect on the trade in domestic tin ware.



1.—A MID-18th-CENTURY WORKSHOP IN WHICH BLOCK TIN AND PEWTER WERE CAST AND TURNED. Tin ware was used at table from the 14th to the 19th centuries.

Formerly three qualities of tin were available, each ingot being distinguished by branding with the name of the mine. The finest quality was moor tin, weighing 80 lb. per cubic foot. Mine tin weighed 52 lb. per cubic foot; pryan tin, 40 lb. per cubic foot. Tin men preferred to work with ingots of close textured moor tin which in 1482 cost them 27s. a cwt., in 1612 £3 a cwt., in 1674 £8 a cwt., in 1702 £12 a cwt., or nearly 2s. a lb.

Ordinances of the Pewterers' Company laid down in 1348 standards for two qualities of pewter: flat ware hammered from metal composed of tin toughened with "as much Brasse copper as it wil receive of his nature," and hollow-ware made from an alloy of 100 lb. tin and 25 lb. lead, "and that is called vessels of tyn for ever." This was a misnomer, however, a confusion with the tin-man's ware, and a century later the term "lay metal" was substituted. Charles I renewed the Pewterers' charter in 1638. The privileges of earlier charters were confirmed and the Company's scope extended to cover "every maker, worker, or manufacturer of Tin, Pewter and Lay Metal." Makers of tin ware were now required to "put their own sign or note upon their works, vessels, or manufactures." This virtually brought workers in pure tin under the jurisdiction of the Pewterers' Company. Tin ware formerly had not been required to bear any mark. The Company also forbade the manufacture of cast domestic ware in tin, a prohibition that continued until 1692, but apparently was ineffective in the northern and western counties.

Tin wares and pewter wares were distinguished by law. An Act of Parliament in 1512 referred to "untrue workmanship in Platters, Chargers, Dishes, Basons, Flaygons, Bottles any other Wares of Tin or Pewter." Pewter more costly than tin, was usually preferred flat ware because of its compact texture, when hammered possessed the additional merit of toughness. Its colour, too, when new, more closely approximated the tint of silver. Tin was more open of texture and rougher of surface, so that fragments of food might become embedded in it. Gerard in his *Herbal*, 1597, recommended housewives to scour tin ware and pewter with the plant pewterwort (*Equisetum hyemale*).

Silvery white tin ware for the table was much greater use than is commonly realised. Caxton in his *Dialogue*, 1481, exclaims: "N must yea have Platers of tyn, disshes, saucers, Sallyrs, trenchours." Domestic ware of tin was continually mentioned in household inventories from the 16th century to the mid 19th century and is usually entered in the same group as pewter, but is distinguished from it, as in the inventory of Ralph Ewrie, Edgnoles, Durham, taken in 1587, which refers to "a basen a ewre of tyn, 6s.; one liverie pott of tynn, 2s. 6d.; ij quarte potte, ij pynte pottes, vj flower pottes, ij saltes, ij candlesticks, vj pottingers and trench plates, all of tynn, 11s. 4d.; iiij platter of pewter 8s.; xij tynn spones 12d." In the *Household Accounts Book of Sarah Fell, Swanmore Hall*, August 5, 1676, is the entry "paid a tin plate for father 5d." Records show that household tin ware was usually made "silvery fashioned."

The casting and turning of tin into domestic table ware was a recognised craft in early-14th-century London. Moor tin was prepared by granulating eight to twelve times by the slow method, falling into vinegar. This whitened and hardened the metal. The resulting tin was highly malleable and approached the colour of silver, acquiring a high lustre by burnishing.

The tinman's premises included a turning and finishing shop half open to the street, but closed when necessary by folding doors and barred from within. The other half of the forge was occupied by a display booth shuttered at night. Living accommodation was above the casting shop on the ground floor at the rear. Some tin casters, however, specialised in making "tin in the shape" for sale to turners, who finished it at the lathe, or by scraping, rasping and filing, as with spoons and trenchers.

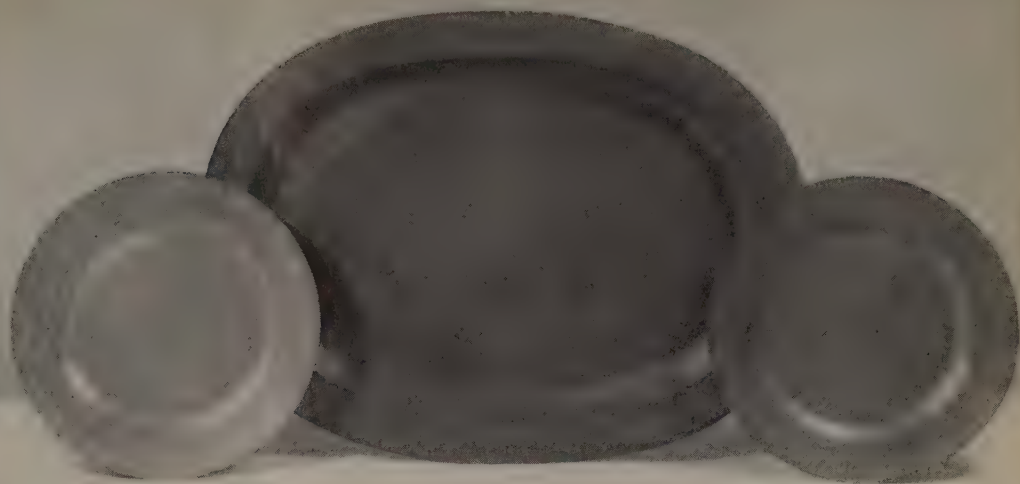
Casting moulds until the mid 18th century were of bronze or bell-metal, without air bubbles and therefore free of surface flaws. From



2.—TUDOR SPOONS OF CAST TIN. Tin was cheaper than pewter but less hard-wearing



(Left) 3.—PORTRAIT OF SIR ROBERT WILLIAM NEWMAN, Bart. (1776-1848), WHOSE CYPHER IS ENGRAVED UPON THE RIMS OF SOME OF THE TIN WARE RECENTLY FOUND AT MAMHEAD, DEVON. (Above) 4.—EXAMPLES OF THE MAMHEAD SERVICE



40s patterns were made from a flawless gun-metal, which had become possible through the invention of improved processes in the manufacture of copper and zinc. The smooth casting surfaces were coated with gum sandarac until 1660 when a mixture of red lead and egg white was found to be more efficient. The brush striations were visible on the surface of the rough tin casting. The molten tin was poured into thoroughly warmed moulds: the quick, even flow of the metal through the moulds was endangered if its surface were chilled against cold metal.

The castings of solid tin were turned on the lathe, known as the "hollow-ware wheel." This was a simple pole-operated lathe, foot-driven or light work. Heavy work required greater power provided by a six-foot driving wheel, manipulated at unvarying speed by a woman or boy known as the turn wheel. The tin worker's lathe was simple, with head-stock and tail-stock centred higher above the ground than on wood-working and other lathes. The tools used were steel gouges, chisels, hooks, points and so on in a wide range of sizes. Each fitted into a long wooden handle which the tin-turner held beneath his arm with the tool working under the rest and not upon it as in general metal turning, thus simplifying the finishing of irregular shapes.

The turned surface was finally burnished to lose the grain of the metal so that it was virtually unaffected by food acids and atmospheric conditions. For this reason hollow-ware interiors were always burnished, first with a round polishing steel set into a long handle and lubricated with soap and water slurry, then with polished bloodstones or agates.

Casters and workers in solid tin congregated in the Crooked Lane district of London, formidable rivals of the pewterers, whose guild compelled them to adhere to high standards of quality and workmanship. In 1634 the master pewterers complained to their company wardens that tin ware from Crooked Lane was a great "deceit," both the quality of the metal and the craftsmanship being poor. The Pewterers' Court was instructed to devise appropriate measures for "suppressing the excessive and abusive making of Crooked Lane Ware." Apparently they failed in this, for two years later the master-men renewed their complaint, now being stated that "the Crooked Lane men were counterfeiting the wares formerly made by the Pewterers of London to their great prejudice." This brought about the granting of a new charter, extended to include the tin men.

Although pewterers were now permitted to make tin ware, the tin men were not empowered to compete with pewter. This was, naturally, resented vigorously by the Crooked Lane men and other craftsmen in tin, and they unsuccessfully petitioned the Court of Aldermen for a charter of their own. The Pewterers' Company records show that in 1670 James Bullivant laid a complaint against a Crooked Lane tin man who also kept a shop in Southwark, where he

retailed both tin and pewter, contrary to the Pewterers' regulations. Crooked Lane, however, continued active, and in 1700 the Pewterers' Company asserted its power by condemning a quantity of sub-standard tin with which the Crooked Lane men were underselling pewter.

Pewterers, now permitted to make ware in pure tin, struck their touch marks on both metals. The whole of the tin in the Newman collection is struck with the various makers' touch marks. The soup plates, for instance, bear the mark of Samuel Ellis, London, who struck his mark on the touch plate at Pewterers' Hall in 1721. Each is accompanied by a pseudo-silver mark consisting of four punches: the golden fleece adapted from his touch mark; the lion's head erased; Britannia; the maker's mark S E. The three latter closely follow the form of high standard hall-marks compulsory on silver from 1697 to 1720. Other plates in the collection bear the large rose and crown mark of John Langton, struck on the Pewterers' touch plate in 1731. Some of these are engraved beneath with the initials ^N_{R M}, the property of Robert (1704-1774) and Mary Newman. At a later date the cypher of Robert William Newman was engraved on the rim. A priced bill in the collection of Sir Ambrose Heal records that it cost threepence for a crest or cypher to be engraved on a plate.

Little tin ware appears to have been made in the 18th century. This was understandable,

as its colour compared unfavourably with that of the hard pewter then in vogue, and in any case by the 1760s it had to face competition from the hard-glazed cream-coloured wares developed by the Staffordshire potters. Improved smelting facilities during the final quarter of the 18th century returned the original sheen to tin ware, however, and by 1800 "tin ware manufacturers" in London outnumbered pewterers, many of them marking their productions with their name and "English Block Tin." In the 19th century they became known as "block tin manufacturers" and specialised in cast ware. This trade lingered until the mid 19th century, the ware being bought largely by tavern, inn and beer-house keepers. An advertisement in the *Birmingham Gazette*, March 28, 1821, announced the sale of "a large assortment of Block Tin Ware: Teapots, pitchers, bowls and ewers, tumblers, quart and pint beer pots, lamps, together with an assortment of pewter ware."

Tin was also used as the base for much ornamental japanned hollow-ware, being cheaper than tin plate to manipulate into intricate forms. The firm of Bevins and Barney, North Street, Wolverhampton, for instance, was established as "block tin and japan worker." Joseph Barney, the junior partner, was flower and fruit painter to the Prince Regent.

Illustrations: 2, British Museum; 3 and 4, Collection of Sir Ralph Newman, Bart.



5.—DISH OF BLOCK TIN MADE IN WOLVERHAMPTON. In front is pewter of the same period

THREAT TO AN ANCIENT GOLF-COURSE

A Golf Commentary by P. A. WARD-THOMAS

THE death of a golf-course is sad, and death has come to several about the land since the war. Generations may have found relaxation and fulfilment, happiness, peace and often beauty on their course, so that it has ceased to be simply a piece of ground, but has a character and personality of its own which cannot be replaced. Then suddenly the builders or the ploughs ravage the turf, once so carefully tended, and soon nothing is left but memories. Or even worse, the course may lie neglected until, with the passing of the months, only overgrown mounds, those forlorn legacies of deserted courses, remain.

There is the same sadness in the thought of its passing as there is in an old house where people have lived and died, or from which they have long since departed. The disused airfields one still sees from time to time give me an uneasy feeling whenever I pass. They have known so much of the strength of living and the fear of dying, and the fullness of activity and purpose, that the sight of cracking concrete, weeds and decaying buildings can be unusually moving. It is the sadness of unwanted things, and of the realising that nothing endures, and that beauty and spirit are so often the victims of materialism. The causes of the closing of a golf-course invariably are material—rising costs, heavy rents, the growth of transport which has destroyed self-contained communities, and often the hideous spread of suburbia's tentacles.

In Mortal Danger

I was disturbed to hear recently that the Old Manchester club is in mortal danger of losing its little course. It appears that the lease has expired and that the club was unable to afford something like £5,000 to purchase the land, which has been acquired by the Salford Corporation. The Corporation's intention is as yet unknown, but the threat that the ground may be used for purposes other than golf is very real, and the club awaits a decision in horrid suspense. Presumably the Corporation has the

best interests of the majority at heart, but this is not always the most valid consideration. The abstract things of life still count for something, even in a Welfare State. I hope the good councillors will give earnest thought to the fact that destruction of the golf-course will be irrevocable and that whatever takes its place can have no meaning in history, whereas Old Manchester has.

It is the oldest golf-club between the Thames and the Tweed. Only Blackheath in all England is its senior, and I doubt if even there they can boast of three gold medals which were first competed for more than a century ago. The club was founded in 1818 by the inspiration of one William Mitchell, a citizen of Manchester. He was joined by some half-dozen others, and on Fridays they would set forth into the country on Kersal Moor, where a course of five holes had been laid out. There was a rare distinction, for at that time, save of course at Blackheath, golf was played nowhere else in the world outside Scotland. I have often wondered whether the happy little company realised that a vast army would follow them down the ages, and whether they talked of it at dinner after their games.

A Banquet for One

Each member took his turn to provide the dinner, which was ordered by the steward, in the event that anyone should forget, and charged to the culprit's account. There was an evening in September, one hundred and one years ago, when only one member was present for the weekly gathering. His name was Ross, and he must have been responsible for the account in the minutes which stated: "The meeting was remarkable for its unanimity . . . There was no lack of substantials if a large Cod, a Saddle of Mutton, a Goose, two brace of Partridges and Puddings rare can be considered enough for one little man. After the cloth was drawn and the solitary candle lighted the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given and received with marked but not uproarious cordiality, but the

toast of the evening, unlike such on ordinary occasions, was given in solemn silence amid sullen fits of execration. That toast was 'To absent members.'" For all his solitary state, Ross must have enjoyed his evening, especially if it was the turn of an absent member to provide the banquet.

For more than sixty years the club continued in peaceful, unchallenged eminence until builders coveted Kersal Moor and drove the golfers away. At about this time a certain McAllister founded the Manchester St. Andrews club at Chorlton, and when a few years later the original club found another home, it had lost its title. There seems to have been some feeling about this, but eventually it was settled. The early golfers became the Old Manchester club and the intruders, as they must have been made to feel, Manchester.

A Promised Land

Again, in 1904, the club was forced to flee from the builders, and then at last it seemed that they had found a promised land, less than a mile from the Moor, where Mitchell and his friends had begun. There are not many charming settings within two miles of the dark city heart, but the present course has one of them. It lies between a steep hill on one hand and the curve of the river which contains the Castles Irwell race-course. There is greenness and precious sense of seclusion on this charming little nine-hole course, and I remember to wonder, on a summer morning many years ago, at being so near and yet so remote from the ugliness of the city. The course was diverting to play, with its different tees for the second time round, and by no means a light test of one's golf as well.

Now it is threatened with extinction, and although the club undoubtedly would try to preserve its identity, perhaps sharing with another's course, something of its background would have gone for ever. The compassion of a corporation alone can save Old Manchester.

CORRESPONDENCE

ALBINO CROW

SIR,—Bird-watchers and many others in Weymouth, Dorset, have been seeing recently a most curious-looking carrion crow with off-white or dirty white bars, which cover approximately two-thirds of both wings. It sometimes scavenges on the beach at low tide. The explanation must be that it is a case of partial albinism.—J. R. CLIVE, 5, Fordington House, Icen Way, Dorchester, Dorset.

THE NORFOLK DONKEY

SIR,—I enclose a photograph of a painting about 24 by 18 ins., of a man holding a donkey; I am sure it is English. When I had had it cleaned, it showed a man in a long frock coat and top hat, holding a stud donkey by a bridle. There is a stable to the rear right, and behind the man is a scene

of rolling country. The man is dressed in tan and brownish-coloured clothing, and the donkey is grey.

On the back was a faded label which stated, as far as I could make out " . . . the Norfolk Donkey, which trotted 12 miles in 56 minutes. Ridden by the man in the painting." I think the name of the donkey is Darnley, but it is too rubbed to read. I wonder if you or any of your readers can give me any information about this donkey or its owner. I would judge the picture to be of about 1840. There is no signature.—E. B. SEWALL (Mrs.), Tarralong Farm, Brown Street, Kennebunk, Maine.

WASPS THAT KILL FLIES

SIR,—With reference to Mr. Graham's letter of November 26, while admitting that a wasp nesting in one's curtains must be destroyed, I think it is a great pity that many people feel that every nest they find should be destroyed.

The natural food of the wasp is flies and their larvæ, and flies of various sorts are a greater menace than wasps. In June one year I heard a great buzzing in a plum tree in my garden, and looking up I found a large number of wasps clearing the new shoots of aphids.

They finished the job in about a week and I had a wonderful crop of plums, which the wasps didn't attack.

A well known naturalist told me that wasps, generally speaking,

should not be killed before the end of July.—S. D. M. HORNER, 10, Longley Road, Farnham, Surrey.

PLAGUE OF QUEENS

SIR,—Recently, while staying with my sister whose garden backs on to Windsor Great Park, we killed 35 queen wasps in the house, nearly all of them shaken out of the folds of the bedroom curtains.

I have been told that queen wasps live to some extent on the larva of the house fly in the spring. If that is so, this slaughter may mean that my sister will have a plague of flies next year.—BARBARA FRENCH, Chasemere, Kingswood, Tadworth, Surrey.

CASES FOR PUMP HEADS

SIR,—In answer to Mr. Eden's enquiry of November 19, there is a water pump still in existence, and I believe, in use, with a decorative lead spout like those he collects, though its design is slightly more imposing. This may be because it is at Launceston Castle, Cornwall. Besides the date—1776—it bears the initials I.H., between which is a fleur-de-lis. I enclose a photograph of it.—J. M., Hereford.

HOW A HEDGEHOG GOT UP THE STAIRS

SIR,—With reference to Brigadier Blest's letter of October 29, *Do Hedgehogs Climb?*, I am certain that the hedgehog could easily have negotiated the stairs and entered his bedroom unaided by leg-pullers.

Gardening into the dusk one evening in May this year, I was joined by a young hedgehog; subsequently he became very friendly, and went to live in a cavity under the electric cooker. He seemed to be



LEAD PUMP HEAD WITH CASES FOR PUMP HEADS AT LAUNCESTON CASTLE, CORNWALL

See letter: Cases for Pump Heads



OIL PAINTING OF A MAN AND A DONKEY DESCRIBED AS THE NORFOLK DONKEY

See letter: The Norfolk Donkey

instinctively clean, making use of the shallow box of earth provided, and was allowed the run of the house.

His first encounter with the stairs was fascinating to watch. He stood on his hind legs and hauled his front half on to the tread of the bottom stair; his back legs flailed space while his forepaws clawed purchase on the stair covering, but he tumbled off. He tried again and again, and many minutes later scaled the first step. Then follow

hibition of stubborn endurance
e heaved and strained upwards,
g his balance and his gains time
time; but giving up just did not
to occur to him. Almost three-
ters of an hour later he reached
top of 13 stairs, where he put on
prising burst of speed and fairly
ked along the corridor, apparently
a bit exhausted.

This climb once accomplished,
developed a knack of levering
self from upright to tread with a
l rocking motion, and soon he
l get upstairs with the greatest
I discovered him one night on
bottom shelf of a tea-trolley; this
12 ins. off the ground and a

and "just happened" to drift by.
When the plumbers were busy he
inspected them and their tool-bag.
Every evening he bumped at the
sitting-room door, and when admitted
would scuttle about behind chairs and
under bookcases, sniffing loudly, until
he settled down on his favourite stool.

His method of descending stairs
was frighteningly simple: he would
launch himself off the top, instantly
rolling into a ball, and whizz down,
hitting and missing until brought up
bang against a skirting-board; a
second's wait to make sure he had
stopped, and then he would unroll
and be off again.

When holiday time came, regret-
fully we turned him loose, but
not before dabbling his stern with jade-green
enamel. Then, sitting by an open
window one August night, I heard a
rustling on the lawn, and traced it
to a hedgehog who, when brought into
the light, displayed our paintwork.

He was noticeably grown and absolutely
alive with fleas, but, worst of all, he was no
longer our "piggy." Suspicious, unfriendly and
jumpy, he would not thaw, and so once again
we gave him his freedom.

—FIONA F. FARRELLY,
Greenway, Woodbeck, Retford, Nottinghamshire.

FOR WALPOLE'S VISITORS

SIR,—Readers of Miss Moir's interesting article, *Touring Country Houses in the 18th Century* (October 22), might be interested to see the enclosed photograph of the original rules and instructions for visitors to Strawberry Hill.

This copy, which bears a note in Horace Walpole's own hand, is pasted in my copy of *Anecdotes of Painting in England* (Strawberry Hill Press, 1762).—H. LLOYD-JOHNES, *Fosse Hill, Coates, near Cirencester, Gloucestershire.*

WHO WAS JOHN RENIE?

SIR,—In view of the recent articles on the town of Monmouth (November 5 and 12), readers may be interested in the following inscription, which appears on a tombstone in the churchyard of St. Mary's Church in Monmouth. The memorial takes the form of a

rectangle of 285 letters (19 horizontal by 15 vertical), and reads: "Here lies John Renie," starting from the centre and ending in any of the four corners. Any route may be followed reading only horizontally and vertically towards one corner. It is supposed that the inscription was thought out by John Renie himself. According to my calculation there are 448 different ways of reading it.—JOHN SEYMOUR, 10, *Hill Crest, Sidcup, Kent.*

MIDLAND SLATE CARVERS

SIR,—I share Mr. Burgess's admiration for the work of the Staveleys (November 26), though my own favourite example of their work is the graceful little group by Christopher symbolising Charity, shown in the enclosed photograph. The headstone on which this relief carving appears is at Burton Lazars, not far from Melton Mowbray, in Leicestershire, and is one of several by the family in an unusually interesting churchyard.

The date is 1781, and I believe that the same design was used—also in slate—at St. Mary de Castro, Leicester. As I have not seen this to check the date, I am not able to say which is the copy. No doubt Mr. Burgess, with his knowledge of the subject, will be able to settle the point.—E. E. KIRBY, 80, Barton Road, Kettering, Northamptonshire.

MOVING A BRIDGE UPSTREAM

SIR,—About 20 years ago you published a photograph of mine showing the 17th-century packhorse bridge at Derwent Woodlands in Derbyshire, doomed by the floodwaters of the proposed Ladybower Reservoir. The bridge was carefully taken down after each stone had been marked, and stored until it could be re-erected.

To-day it once again spans the Derwent at a spot higher up the river known as Slippery Stones, where it again serves a packhorse track. My first photograph shows it in its new position. Public subscriptions and various grants have enabled the Sheffield and Peak District Branch of the Council for the Preservation of Rural England to rebuild this fine structure as a memorial to John



SLATE RELIEF BY CHRISTOPHER STAVELEY, AT BURTON LAZARS, LEICESTERSHIRE

See letter: Midland Slate Carvers

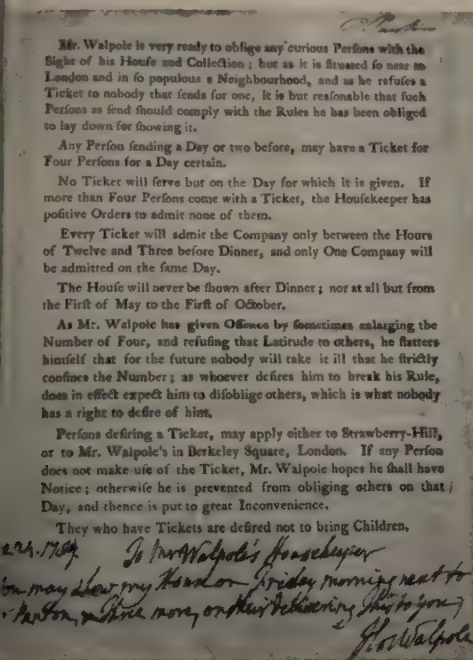
Derry, a Sheffield journalist and lover of these hills. It was re-opened in September by the Minister of Works in the last Government, Mr. Hugh Molson. By a strange coincidence the abnormally dry summer lowered the waters of the Ladybower so much that for the first time since the valley was flooded people could once again walk the streets of Derwent Woodlands, and see the site of the packhorse bridge, before going five miles up river to see it in its new position.

My second photograph, taken on the same day as the first, shows the original site of the bridge.—FRANK RODGERS, 94, Browning Street, Derby.

STRATA FLORIDA AND ITS CHURCHES

SIR,—In his interesting article, *Farewell to the Loneliest of Roads* (November 12), Mr. Condry mentions the abbey of Strata Florida in Cardiganshire and the very ancient roads which go past Nant yr Hwch to Brecon and Carmarthenshire.

The road to Llandovery passes a small church, Capel Peulin, near Ystradffyn (in Carmarthenshire), which belonged to Strata Florida Abbey, and was either built or probably rebuilt by the monks, as it is dedicated to St. Paulinus, who lived about 519 A.D. The Cistercians were great sheep farmers and the abbey lands were widespread, one grange or farm of about 3,000 acres being in Brecon,



See letter: For Walpole's Visitors

ch stiffer problem than a stair,
e being no helpful platforms or
peries within reach.

Like the brigadier's visitor, he
fond of comfort, and I often
and him rolled up in a trailing
nket; or he would patiently tweak
angling woolly in the children's
ns, until he could bundle himself
in it. I never remembered this
ime, and frequently snatched up
rumples jersey only to dislodge a
prised and sleepy hedgehog.

He had a most amiable and
quiring nature. Whenever a caller
he he always awoke from his lair



THE DERWENT PACKHORSE BRIDGE, DERBYSHIRE. It was recently re-erected five miles upstream from its original site. (Right) THE ORIGINAL SITE. It is normally under the Ladybower Reservoir, but was exposed during the dry summer

See letter: Moving a Bridge Upstream



VICTORIAN TERRA-COTTA FIGURES ON THE DIGBETH INSTITUTE, BIRMINGHAM

See letter: Learning Helped by Terra-cotta

near and partly on the slopes of the Eppynt Range of mountains.

This district is still known locally as Tirabad (Abbot's Land), though the small church, built there by the abbey, is Llandulais and is so marked on the Ordnance Survey map. The name Tirabad has now been given to a near-by house built by the late Lord St. Davids just before 1914. The abbot of Strata Florida must have often ridden through Abergwessyn and Old Llanwrtyd, where the abbey had also built or rebuilt the church; then he would have gone on to Tirabad and stayed at the Hospitium, now the Spite Inn.—L. E. BLANDY (Mrs.), Dolaubrun, Llandovery, Carmarthenshire.

WYATT'S FIRST COUNTRY HOUSE

SIR,—I wonder whether any of your readers can give me the name of James Wyatt's first complete country-house commission.

Recently I had the opportunity of visiting Gaddesden Place, Hertfordshire, built by Wyatt for Thomas Halsey in 1768-73 (the earlier date is scratched into a wall on the ground floor). I know of no other Wyatt house that predates Gaddesden: in fact, I know of no other building of Wyatt's before 1770 (The Pantheon, Oxford Street). Wyatt was only 22 in 1768 and had returned that year from Italy, where he had been studying architecture and decoration.

The exterior of Gaddesden, as it stands, is essentially the house that Wyatt built. The interior of the central block was entirely rebuilt in 1905 after a disastrous fire, and little of Wyatt remains. An equally unrecorded house of Wyatt's is Lasborough Park, Gloucestershire. The house there is Gothic and obviously much later, but I have been at a loss to find the dates of its erection.—PETER MERTON REID, Tynedale, Castle Hill Avenue, Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire.

[Neither Gaddesden Place nor Lasborough Park is recorded among James Wyatt's works in Mr. Anthony Dale's monograph on James Wyatt or in Mr. H. M. Colvin's *Biographical Dictionary of English Architects*.—ED.]

LEARNING HELPED BY TERRA-COTTA

SIR,—Mr. G. Bernard Hughes's interesting account of 19th-century terra-cotta (November 19) reminded me of the ornamental brickwork figures often seen on buildings of this period, such as the caryatid-like forms on the Digbeth Institute, Birmingham. If contemporary architecture is to remain for the most part innocent of applied ornament, such buildings may become increasingly valued in the future.

But I felt less guilty than I might otherwise have done, for I grew scarlet runners on my verandah, and scarlet runners are, from the point of view of a humming-bird, just what the doctor ordered.—R. F. LOWIS, *Hollybank, Bracknell, Berkshire.*

ARCHITECT IN MONMOUTH

SIR,—In Mr. Little's second article on Monmouth (November 12) it is stated that the name of the architect of the Shire Hall, built in 1724, is unknown.

It is true that the original plans and building accounts have been lost, but the former at least were still in existence in the early 19th century, and among the County Records there is a letter (C.Bu.0004) from a certain T. Phillips, who wrote in 1821: "I remember well seeing the drawing of the plan of the building in the chest . . . and that Fisher of Bristol was the name of the Architect."

No architect of this name is mentioned in Mr. Ison's book on *The Georgian Buildings of Bristol*, nor is our knowledge much advanced by an entry in John Chambers's *MS. Collections for a Biography of English Architects* in the R.I.B.A. Library, which reads: "Fisher 1680. Of this person I have only his name and profession, an Architect."

It does not necessarily follow that the Fisher mentioned in 1680 was the architect of Monmouth Shire Hall, but now that the latter's name and place of residence are known further information about his career will perhaps come to light.—H. M. COLVIN, 28, Museum Road, Oxford.

PREHISTORIC BEETLE

SIR,—Mr. Ian Niall's reference in your issue of November 19 to the persistent use of our grandfathers' hand tools, which have been little if at all improved, was particularly well supported by the stake beetle that once again I saw in use a few weeks ago in Herefordshire. I enclose a photograph of it. It is no more than a club-shaped piece of wood of prehistoric appearance, the head hollowed out so that it will get a grip on a stake and drive it truly in the most awkward position.



STAKE BEETLE IN USE IN HEREFORDSHIRE

See letter: Prehistoric Beetle

I say "no more than," but it is, in fact, a good deal more to it, shown by a local trick question to uninitiated: "When would you catch a stake beetle?" The innocent has mumbled, as he thinks cleverly, at the sap being down and so on, is it "Whenever you are lucky enough to see one."—MILES HADFIELD, 39, Hamstead Hill, Handsworth W. Birmingham, 20.

ORNATE LEAD FONT

SIR,—I send you a photograph of lead font at Aston Ingham in Herefordshire. The bowl is dated 1680 and has moulded rims and ornament in the form of cherubs with acanthus leaves and foliage.

There are also the initials W and W.M., which at first sight suggest the reign of William and Mary, this is obviously not how it was



LEAD FONT AT ASTON INGHAM, HEREFORDSHIRE

See letter: Ornate Lead Font

be done. So one must conclude that they are the initials of the otherwise unknown donors.—M. V. Hereford.

A SIGNAL FOR MASS

SIR,—The picture of Woollas Hall, Worcestershire, in your issue of November 19 brought to my mind some pleasant visits to this lovely house during the war, when, at the invitation of the then owners, I took parties of personnel from a nearby R.A.F. station for picnic teas.

Appropos of the priest's hole at chapel at the top of the house, we were told that, at the time of the Reformation and after, intimidation of the forthcoming celebration of Mass was made known by spreading laundry on the hedgerows surrounding the house. By laying it on the ground the reverse was indicated.

Needless to say, the signal could be read for miles around, as Woollas Hall stands high on the side of Bredon Hill.—ERIC B. FRECKINGHAM, Manor Close, Rolleston, Newark, Nottinghamshire.

FORT BELVEDERE DECORATION

SIR,—In my second article on Fort Belvedere, Surrey (November 26), I misplacing of a phrase must have confused some readers. The description of the dining-room should read: "The present decoration, as in other rooms, was supervised by Mr. Stanley Peters, and the murals were painted by Mr. Oliver Carson." The impression was given that there are other rooms with murals, whereas, of course, there are not.—CHRISTOPHER HUSSEY, London, S.W.1.



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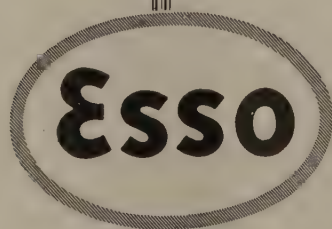
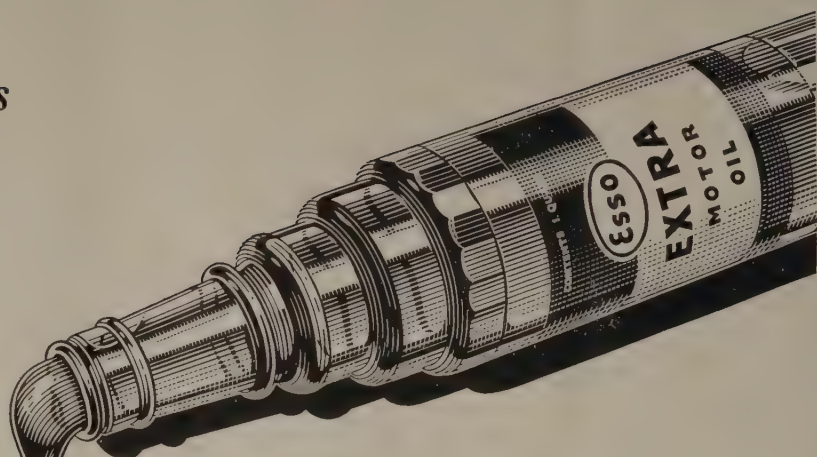


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CAUSERIE ON BRIDGE

FELLOW-TRAVELLERS

By M. HARRISON-GRAY

NE of the happier conventions is the travelling score sheet that is used in a pairs tournament. As soon as a hand has played, the result is entered on a slip of paper which accompanies each board on its way from table to table; after previous results have been studied and debated, the slip is added up and replaced in the board.

The beauty (if that is the right word) of this idea is obvious. As South you play a hand of Three No-Trumps, not vulnerable, and you make 10 tricks for a score of 430. You look at the score sheet and find, to your disgust, that the following data. The hand has already been played at six other tables, each time in Three No-Trumps; no one made fewer than 10 tricks, in three cases 11 were made for a score of 440. In other words, your match-point score on board will be well below average.

You can now adopt one of two attitudes. The most popular is to declaim against the dulling defence which allowed certain declarers to make a trick more than you did, with reference to the element of luck which reduces pairs event to a farce. A more sensible plan is to approach one of the lucky South players and enquire about the contest; you may well find that he used a superior line of play which you completely overlooked.

This educational aspect cannot be ignored. In rubber bridge you would not give the hand a second thought; yet the line of play which saves an extra overtrick may save the day, if you take a mental note, when you find yourself unable to make a contract of Three No-Trumps doubled. By the same token, a pairs contest can help an aspiring player to brush up his bidding. The example below was submitted by a reader.

♠ J 10 9 7
♥ K
♦ K 10 3
♣ K 10 9 5 2

♠ 2
♥ A Q 9 7 6 3
♦ A 8 7 4
♣ A 7

N
W E
S

♠ A K Q 6 5 3
♥ J 10 8
♦ 9 2
♣ J 8

Dealer, South. Both sides vulnerable.

Every South opened One Spade, and West over doubled or overcalled with Three Hearts. In nearly all cases North's bid of Three Spades led the auction, 10 tricks being made in great comfort. Since game depended on finding two tricks onside, these North-South pairs felt relieved when the score slip showed that Four Spades had been reached here and there. "Wild bidding" was the usual sour comment. But there was more to it than that.

South did not go on over Three Spades for valid reasons. One, he had the maximum number of losers, the minimum honour strength in a moderate shape. Two, he suspected that North's Three Spades was in the nature of a catch; after a double by West it sounded like a routine bounce on a nine-loser hand with four trumps, and over a strong jump overcall it might be merely competitive.

My correspondent investigated and found the right answer. Whether the Spade opening was doubled or overcalled with Three Hearts, the main North players jumped to Four Spades. They spurned the usual argument: "I couldn't make more than Three with eight losers and no trumps, especially after West had shown a strong hand." But that was the very reason for taking strain off their partners. On the bidding North's minor suit Kings had become promoted, and the Aces must be held by his partner or his right-hand opponent. In addition to that he had the right singleton and sufficient solidity in his hands to guard against a possible bad break. Finding so many key features, North could only deduct a loser and bid the full value of his hand. This is a good example of the much-neglected positional factor in bidding.

Sometimes the travelling score sheet has a kaleidoscopic effect on the eye. It led to dark mutterings when the hand below came up in the first stage of the British Bridge League trials, restricted to the younger generation of master players.

♠ J 2
♥ Q J 10 9 7 6 3 2
♦ ...
♣ J 9 3

♠ K Q 10 9 6 3
♥ ...
♦ A 10 6 4 3 2
♣ 7

N
W E
S

♠ 4
♥ A K 8 5
♦ K Q 8 7 5
♣ Q 8 6

Dealer, South. Neither side vulnerable.

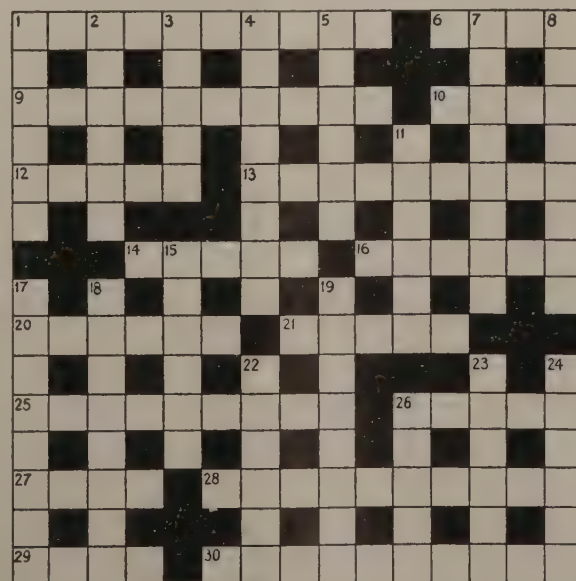
This ferocious affair was played at seven tables, and the par contract was reached in one case only. East-West had bid Six Spades, which was cold, and North-South sacrificed in Seven Hearts doubled. That should cost 500, an excellent save in view of the 980 points that East-West would have scored in their slam call. In practice South, who became the declarer after opening with One Heart, conceded a mere 100. West made the unfortunate lead of the Ace of Diamonds. South's Diamonds became good for three Club discards in dummy, and all that he lost was a Spade trick.

Minus 100 looked like a wonderful result for North-South, but other entries on the score slip struck the pair concerned as singularly repulsive. At one table West had been allowed to play in Six Spades doubled, and the outcome rather suggested that there is no such thing as a cold contract. Having trumped the opening Heart lead, West conceived the idea that his Diamonds would be easier to set up than dummy's Clubs; his Ace was ruffed by North, and that was that. Since minus 500 was par for North-South, a plus score of 100 was a rich, if undeserved, reward.

CROSSWORD No. 1551

COUNTRY LIFE books to the value of 3 guineas will be awarded for the first correct solution opened. Solutions (in a closed envelope) must reach "Crossword No. 1551, COUNTRY LIFE, 2-10, Tavistock Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2," not later than the first post on the morning of Monday, December 21, 1959.

NOTE.—This Competition does not apply to the United States.



Name.....
(MR., MRS., ETC.)

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SOLUTION TO No. 1550. The winner of this Crossword, the clues of which appeared in the issue of December 10, will be announced next week.

ACROSS.—1, Feathering; 6, Mugs; 9, Lubricants; 10, Homo; 12, Stroll; 13, Alice; 16, Rumours; 18, Decline; 19, Bleared; 21, Mustang; 22, Tagus; 23, Sancho; 27, Eton; 28, Mouthpiece; 29, Trey; 30, Stereotype. DOWN.—1, Felt; 2, Ambo; 3, Hoist; 4, Reasons; 5, Nettled; 7, Unoriginal; 8, Stonehenge; 11, Marcus; 14, Grub Street; 15, Ember-goose; 17, Unrest; 20, Disport; 21, Monster; 24, Hippo; 25, Rely; 26, Here.

However, plus 100 did not compare well with the next entry. South had somehow contrived to play the hand in Five Hearts doubled. The Ace of Diamonds held a strange fascination for the West players. In view of their Heart void, one can understand a reluctance to lead the singleton Club; it still seems odd that no one tried the King of Spades, in which event East would presumably overtake and cash two Clubs. As it was, South made an overtrick for a score of 750. And even that was not a top for North-South! At another table the popular opening lead enabled South to wrap up a contract of Six Hearts doubled for a score of 1,210. The prepared bid of One Heart worked well at these various tables; the result would have been less happy if North had been the declarer. You will also note that the first North-South pair, who rose well above par in conceding a mere 100 points, scored no better than average on the board.

At two of the remaining tables West played peacefully in Four or Five Spades. Finally, the East-West top went to the pair who made Six Spades doubled. A score of 1,210 was thus returned from both directions.

The trial resulted in a clear-cut win for Alan Truscott and Tony Friday. The former player also triumphed in the Masters Individual Championship. Like Claude Rodrigue, who came second, Truscott has achieved a fine record in this contest by dint of curbing his natural ardour; each master has to cope with 24 partners, and flights of fancy are apt to boomerang.

A travelling score sheet figured in a notable episode as the Individual contest neared its end. G. C. H. Fox was facing a partner with a well-known penchant for sporting overcalls. Their side only was vulnerable, and his partner was caught for 1,400 in a contract of Two Spades doubled. Having opened the score slip and noted various scores of 400-odd to the non-vulnerable side, Fox gravely made this comment: "We're below average now, partner, but the board has still to be played at one table."

ACROSS

- There are rodents to put underground in this town (10)
- Drinks for sale (4)
- Little fellow from Eastern Europe (10)
- Such a board is one-sided, however brilliant (4)
- High ground to wander over (5)
- The innocent requires 20 cwt., that's all! (9)
- and 16. An uplifting sight in London, if you are there at the right moment (5, 6)
- Who were responsible for giving the tea-set? (6)
- The lazy creature! (5)
- Three choices for the bird: 100, 1,000, a single insect (9)
- "Yet still the sails made on
"A pleasant — till noon"—Coleridge (5)
- and 28. A crown but not a dollar over here (4, 2, 3, 5)
- "Implores the passing tribute of a —" —Gray (4)
- Rather than plants you would find plantigrades here, but what a scene of confusion! (4, 6)

DOWN

- A huge B, how grand! (6)
- Language many must drop, or begin to take up (6)
- The sower does not change for the better (5)
- Sent a rib (anagr.) (8)
- Back to writing provides new equipment (6)
- There should be plenty of scope on this line (8)
- He must lose no time in getting off (8)
- "The liquor for boys," according to Dr. Johnson (6)
- If you haven't one, you have got to! (6)
- "With statues on the terraces and — strutting by"—Kipling (8)
- Showing alarm at the outset? (8)
- Playmate (8)
- Thwart (6)
- Sir Walter of the North (6)
- A chap to shut up: he's a writer! (6)
- Variety of Roman opera (5)

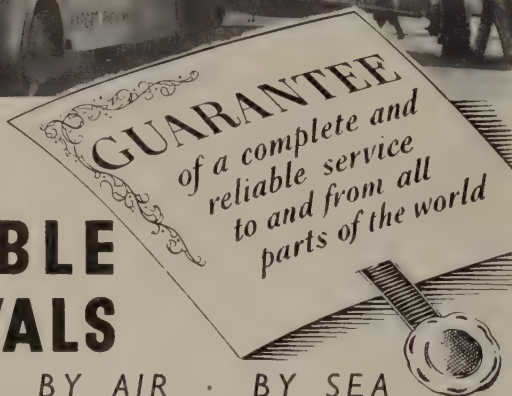
The winner of Crossword No. 1549 is

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E ESTATE MARKET

ESSENTIALS OF OWNERSHIP

THE relationship between landlord and agent was the subject of a talk given by Lieut.-Col. Verdin to the Chartered Land Agents' Society and reproduced in month's issue of the Society's *Journal*.

"Owners," observed Col. Verdin, "has substantial farming interests in Hampshire, 'differ widely. Some are knowledgeable, some think they know others don't pretend to know; are owners present and absentee.' whatever their category, or how-disinterested they might be, they are always important in some respect. First and foremost they had to decide financial policy, and one of the first questions an agent would ask was how much, if any, an owner required from his estate. And if he replied, as he almost invariably would, 'As much as possible,' it would be necessary to persuade him that this might not be a wise policy."

Essentials of Ownership

Col. Verdin gave his opinion that there were three essentials of ownership as regards the economy of agricultural land: first, to increase the value of the capital assets by means of improved management; to obtain the maximum revenue, always bearing in mind the comparative value of £1 of land as income with its probable increase in capital appreciation if spent on the estate; and to pay as little tax as possible. His own aim was that the income from the estate should cover the expenditure, i.e. capital, maintenance, tithe and at least part of the expenditure on Schedule D woodlands, so that little or no tax had to be paid. His plan did not, of course, include initial capital expenditure, so that the 10-year average gross claim would equal the annual capital outlay.

Absentee Landlords

ACCORDING to Col. Verdin, however disinterested owners may be, however much absent, a word from them can usually achieve a great deal more than any amount of pressure through an agent. He suggested, therefore, that when an agent had an owner who visited his estate rarely, he should point him to the best advantage. In fact he thought that agents liked to take owners to the best farms, and owners probably preferred going to them.

This he believed to be a mistake. Instead, he thought that they should be shown the worst farms, so that they could let fall a word of criticism where it would be likely to do most good. Similarly, if an agent had a tenant who was being difficult, or who wanted an improvement made when it was not convenient to make, or an employee who hoped for his wages to be modernised when for some reason it was not immediately practicable, "then of course you steer him clear of all these places." But is it right? he asked. A visit from the owner would often satisfy the tenant or employee that an interest had been taken in his case.

Special Fads

THE understanding of an owner's special interests is another requisite for a happy and successful partnership between landlord and agent, and Col. Verdin suggests that all owners have special fads. His own is that all possible expenditure should be included in the maintenance claim, and he admits that sometimes he has been extremely unpopular in the offices of his own agents. He makes his agents submit each year a list of any items paid out of the maintenance account that have been refused by the inspector of taxes for either the

capital or maintenance claim, excluding tithe, rates, and tax (if it is paid).

STOKE COURT TO BE RESTORED

STOKE COURT, Penn, Buckinghamshire, formerly the home of the descendants of William Penn, founder of Pennsylvania, has been derelict for some years. But now comes news that it is to be restored and converted at an estimated cost of £200,000 by Miles Laboratories, who will carefully preserve its Tudor origins and style, and who will also restore its gardens, which cover 22 acres. The house will be used as a scientific research centre for the Miles group of companies, and Mr. W. Morgan Thompson, managing director of the parent company, has said that the choice of Britain as a home for this research centre, which will serve the whole of Europe and the eastern hemisphere, is "both a compliment and a challenge to the British company." It is expected that the conversion of Stoke Court will be completed by next summer.

£80,000 FOR DORSET BUILDING LAND

A DEVELOPMENT project with an American flavour concerns 43 acres of the Southill estate (adjoining Weymouth Golf Course, Dorset), which have been sold by Messrs. Drivers, Jonas and Co. for £80,000 to Messrs. George Calverley and Sons, a firm of contractors from the Midlands who have extended operations to the south of England. The company intends to develop the estate by the erection of ultra-modern houses on fully landscaped sites based on American designs, and, in fact, it is understood that already they have sold a considerable number of houses direct from the plan.

£205 AN ACRE FOR DAIRY FARM

SALES of agricultural land and country houses have almost dried up owing to the approach of the Christmas holidays, but one of the last auctions of a farm to be reported was a most successful one. The property was Huntingdon Hall, a T.T. attested dairy holding of 100 acres situated three miles from the middle of Chester, on the fringe of the Eaton estate. It was offered with possession by Messrs. Jackson-Stops and Staff's Chester office and Messrs. Swetenham, Whitehouse and Co., and fetched £20,500. A bailiff's flat and two cottages went with the house.

Another attested dairy property that changed hands recently was Park House, a farm of 145 acres at Fernhurst on the borders of Surrey and Sussex. It was sold by Messrs. George Trollope and Sons and Messrs. Weller and Co.

FIELD-MARSHAL'S HOME FOR SALE

THE home of the late Field-Marshal Lord Ironside, Morley Old Hall, Attleborough, Norfolk, is to be sold by Mariot, Lady Ironside, his widow. Morley Old Hall, which was built by the Sedleys in the latter part of the 16th century, was taken over by Lord Ironside in 1941. The sale of this three-storey house, which stands in about 30 acres and is surrounded by a moat, is in the hands of Messrs. Strutt and Parker, Locks and Warner.

About 550 acres of the Worthy Park Estate, Hampshire, have been sold by Messrs. John D. Wood, acting with Mr. H. Ian Redfern, on behalf of Mrs. K. E. R. Butchart. The properties sold include Hinton House, Worthy Park House, two dairy farms and a mile of trout fishing on the Itchen.

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FARMING NOTES

FREE TRADE
DOUBTS

THE President of the N.F.U., Lord Netherthorpe, said recently at Hawick, Roxburgh, that the Government has set out the most liberal trading policy this country has ever known. Rightly he said farmers not to be content to be producers, but to cater for changes in dietary habits so as to hold the market for the foods we can best produce. Farmers generally must feel uneasy about the moves to free trade not only with Europe but with the rest of the world. We have not yet got up to what may be coming to us. Danes have been promised the removal of the 10 per cent. tariff on bacon. Will others in Western Europe now expect free entry for their produce here and then for their eggs and other products?

At the same time the reasons for a justified quota limitation of foreign supplies are disappearing, and Canada is entitled to regain a share in the pork and bacon market. Canada and the United States will also press for free entry for their apples. How British farmers fare when supplies come from all sources are free to enter here? Some of these supplies, such as frozen pork for instance, are a subsidy provided by way of compensation to domestic producers. Others are the fruits of bountiful production, and they can be sent here at low prices in order to clear a domestic market.

For most products British farmers need the assurance of price guarantees. We rely on this insulation from fluctuations in prices continuing indefinitely? Government will have to decide whether to continue to support agriculture is to continue to support the lines of production which are best, or whether we must continue to a pattern of production that does not antagonise others who look to the British market for a bigger outlet for their primary products and in which range will take more of our manufactured goods. It is true, of course, that busy factories here ensure a good demand for the best farm produce. It lies our hope.

to Milk Price Control?

ANOTHER committee has been set up to review the methods of determining the remuneration of the producers of liquid milk. Their task is to find a margin from the point of sale by the Milk Marketing Board to delivery to the consumer is fixed by the Government. Should not this price control now be swept away? Is there any justification for Government price control on milk when there is no control on the prices of meat, poultry, or other foodstuffs? I cannot see how it would injure the interests of producers or consumers if the Milk Marketing Board continued to fix the wholesale price and let distributors charge an appropriate retail price according to the service given. Distinctive costs must vary widely according to local conditions. So long as the distributors' margin is fixed by Government rule some must do extra work and some not well enough, which increases the difficulty of maintaining a milk service in scattered districts.

ds Down

FOR many years we have been able to take pride in the steadily rising production of our dairy cows. Last year, because of the wet autumn, the average per cow declined from 745 gallons to 720 gallons. The cows in many herds looked miserable at this time a year ago. The weather was not so bad but it was not healthy for them. They suffered from chills and a general decline, and once they were pulled

down in condition they did not recover for the rest of the lactation. Indeed, we are still seeing the effects of last winter. Milk yields have not yet recovered, and with shorter supplies a smaller proportion of the milk supply has gone into manufacture. The Milk Board has paid a penny a gallon more on October milk than they planned when the price schedule for the year was set.

Royal Show Finances

IN the accounts of the Royal Agricultural Society of England the net expenditure on the Show at Oxford appears as £19,315. From the Society's income and expenditure account I find that the deficiency for the year ended December 31, 1958, was £1,365. So taking everything together, the Society almost balanced its accounts last year. It would be nice, of course, if the Royal Show paid for itself year after year, but with the high costs involved to-day this is out of the question, unless some of the Society's subscription income is credited to the Royal Show. In 1958 the subscription income was £28,000, and at least half of the members belong to the Society because of the privileges they get when they attend the Royal Show. Credit the Royal Show with £14,000, and we have a different picture. It should look better still when the Society achieves the permanent base for the Royal Show that is now being sought in the Midlands. In 1960 the Show will go to Cambridge for the first of two years, and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother has consented to be the year's President.

Fowl Pest from U.S.A.?

TWO-THIRDS of the poultry slaughtered in outbreaks of fowl pest during the last two months have been table birds and nearly all of these were broilers. It is understandable that when large numbers of birds are housed close together infection spreads fast, but further research is needed to establish the origin of infection. It has been suggested in the House of Commons that this bad dose of fowl pest in virulent form was brought in by hatching eggs smuggled from the United States. The Americans have specialised in the production of hybrids especially suited for broiler production, and this new type of bird has been appearing here, although there has been a health ban on the importation of live poultry and hatching eggs for several years past. The Minister has promised to make enquiries.

After the Diploma

EACH year 500 young men and women come forward for the National Diplomas in Agriculture and Dairying, and about two-thirds of them are successful. I see from the Royal Agricultural Society of England's *Quarterly Review* that about one candidate in five is a farmer's son. Recently a sample check was taken to see what happened to those young men and women who took diplomas. Twenty-two per cent. had become managers, bailiffs or foremen; 19 per cent. had taken up technical or commercial jobs; 15 per cent. had gone into public services, such as N.A.A.S., or agricultural education; and another 15 per cent. were farming on their own or with their fathers. Some had gone overseas. The value of these diplomas is the greater because those who take them have qualified at farm institutes, and the teaching of routine farm operations and skills is an essential there.

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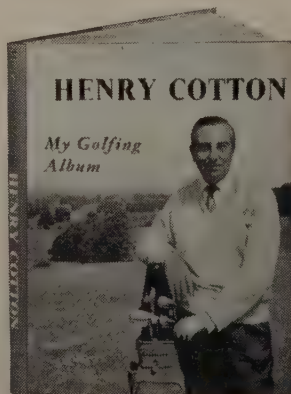
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NEW BOOKS

THE MYSTERY OF MONARCHY

Reviews by HOWARD SPRING

THE priest-king is a very old conception—much older than Christianity. Indeed Christianity, upon the establishment of the papacy, struck a blow at this concentration of all power in one pair of hands. Seeing that heaven and hell, tending felicities and tortures into the unimaginable reaches of eternity, are so much more important than the re-blink of life on earth, the Pontiff, holding the keys to these domains, was more powerful than any Emperor, however Holy and Roman. He could, in the most literal way, tell an Emperor to go to hell. Still, so long as he was sanctified by the Pope, a king was hedged by divinity. Even Henry VIII had made it clear that he intended to go his own way, Pope or no Pope, he wanted the

that they surrounded themselves with courtiers enjoying sinecures whose emoluments drained the revenue. There were centuries of unrest and insecurity during which it was understandable that a king should have around him powerful men attached to his cause. One way of attaching them was to give them well paid jobs, and the jobs continued long after there was any sense or reason in them. It was not until the time of Edward VII that the office of Master of the Buckhounds was abolished. It had existed for 700 years. So it was with much else, and one may see from Mr. Turner's lively pages how all too often the necessary men of power who were the first courtiers gave place to pretty boys and backstairs procurers who all had to be lavishly paid and, as often as

THE COURT OF ST. JAMES'S. By E. S. Turner

(Michael Joseph, 21s.)

GRIVAS: PORTRAIT OF A TERRORIST. By Dudley Barker

(Cresset Press, 21s.)

THE WONDERS OF YORKSHIRE. By Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby

(Dent, 30s.)

divinity to be still attached to the crown. He could at least become defender of the Faith. The priest-king was long a-dying. Divine Right was still the claim of Charles I, but later impious hands had shown what they thought of this idea by removing the king's head, no other English monarch bothered about it. Perhaps James II would have insisted on it had he been given time to insist on anything. But he wasn't.

Hedged by Divinity

These reflections are relevant to Mr. E. S. Turner's book *The Court of St. James's* (Michael Joseph, 21s.). This is a consideration of kings, courtiers and their effect upon the life of the English people. Evidently that effect was easier to produce so long as the people considered the king to be hedged by divinity, even though the hedge was at times so thick and thorny that not much effulgence came through. Mr. Turner, on one of his last pages, writes that "the second Elizabeth came to a court which drew both strength and glitter from its anachronisms. . . . The ritual of this court went back until it vanished in the haze of mysticism. Its etiquette, though much eased, was the timeless etiquette of sovereigns." But the haze of mysticism no longer included Divine Right. The only right now was that of something that worked and that the people wanted to keep because it fulfilled their desires. It is good for people to have a myth, in the true sense of that word, something over and beyond the humdrum of common life, and the danger to-day is not of monarchy being surrounded by too much courtliness, but too little. Monarchy is a mystery as well as an act.

The reasonable complaint of the people against their monarchs was

not, raised to the peerage. And the customary manner of finding the pay was to create another courtly office with satisfactory emoluments to come out of the public purse. It is noteworthy that, though progress was slow, it was fairly steady once Charles I's divine prerogative had been examined and dismissed.

Burke's Attacks on Sinecures

By the time of the Georges, men like Burke were making smashing attacks on the absurdity of courtly sinecures. Why, he asked, should noblemen keep the king's buckhounds, staghounds, foxhounds and harriers? "It is not proper that great noblemen should be keepers of dogs, though they were the king's dogs." But reform is not easy. Pitt's courtly adherents refused to adhere unless they were paid for doing it. "After 1784 Pitt had little to bestow except peerages. Burke is supposed to have said that he blamed himself for the increase of peerages under Pitt."

One thing about the host of courtiers was that, behind them, the monarch could remain almost invisible, mystic, wonderful. To-day it is demanded that the Queen should be "put across" to the people. She should be surrounded by "men who can deal with the ink and television side of her existence subtly and sensibly, without losing sight of the great symbolic utility of the institution she embodies." And that, of course, is the snag: the strange mingling of symbolism and utility that a monarch is. It would be easy to rush at the problem too headily and clumsily. The guffy familiarity of the popular Press is no help. It seems to me that from the time of Edward VII onward there has been a steady coming closer of Crown and people that is a reasonable and natural growth, arising



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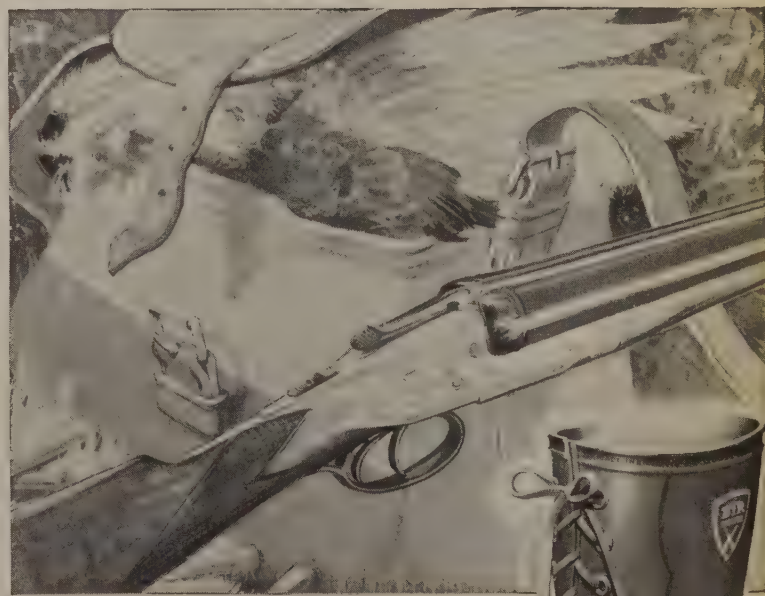
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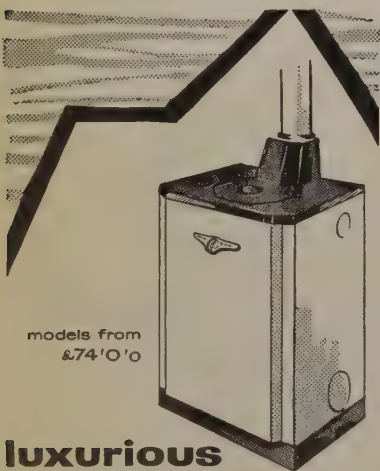


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VIEWS by HOWARD SPRING—continued

out of the desire of the Crown out of the yelping of malcontents. It can be left to make its way.

Mr. Turner's book considers these years as they have affected English from Norman times to our own. The author has assembled an enormous amount of information from papers, histories, memoirs, biographies and every other available and has compounded it into a narrative that reads excellently all the way through.

H-TERRORIST IN CYPRUS

Mr. Dudley Barker has been to Cyprus in order to talk to those who knew Colonel Grivas or first-hand information about him. His book, *Grivas: Portrait of a Terrorist* (Cresset Press, 21s.), sums up his findings. The terrorism in Cyprus, Mr. Barker thinks, was a one-man affair. Grivas had been caught, the other terrorists, most of whom were of poor quality, would have drifted back into inactivity." But he was not caught, despite the efforts of 10 British troops and policemen to catch him. For four years or so he kept the island jumping, and he did it by his sole diet.

This small point throws a lot of light on Grivas. One is apt to think of terrorism as a tip-and-run haphazard affair. With Grivas it was nothing of the sort. He was a professional terrorist who had seen service against the British and Germans as a staff-officer accustomed to planning. For years before his time of terror began he had been working upon its theory, and this theory was put precisely into operation. From his home in Greece he made many visits to Cyprus, weighing in the people he would have to work in the country he would have to win and the resources he could count upon.

Food, for example. What about

The plan he had constructed depended upon swift incessant movement, much of it in mountains. Usually then, the food would have been something that could be snatched there. The island abounded in such food. Very well, then. His men must live on fruit. For long before his mission began, he was living on oranges in Athens, and he was so "merry-minded" that he explained to his wife by saying that his mission had found him to be suffering from an ulcer and had prescribed a diet of oranges.

Children Trained to Kill

One may deduce that Grivas was the man to leave things to chance; from eating oranges to arranging for school children should learn to shoot without hesitation when told to do so. A scheme was arranged to the last before he began to put it into operation, and it was adhered to with virtually no variation. He had trained Communists at work in Cyprus. He loathed them, but he thought their methods admirable. A man's life meant nothing to him. A soldier's job was to kill the enemy, and the enemy was anyone who stood in his way and his objective.

This is the person who emerges from Mr. Barker's study: a short, stocky man, looking like Groucho Marx, but lacking Groucho's sense of humour. He was austere, friendless, dedicated to his own dream of freedom. "He never played cards, never drank in the singing of a song, never

drank alcohol or even smoked a cigarette." An officer said to Mr. Barker: "None of us became his friend, because nobody could be his friend. One could not discuss anything with him except matters of duty. . . . He never relaxed." That is Grivas, and this is the book of his doings.

A GREAT COUNTY

Miss Marie Hartley has written many fine books about Yorkshire, at first in collaboration with the late Ella Pontefract, and more recently in collaboration with Miss Joan Ingilby. Miss Hartley writes and Miss Ingilby does the pictures. Their new book is *The Wonders of Yorkshire* (Dent, 30s.). A county whose borders touch upon Lincolnshire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, Westmorland and Durham, to say nothing of having a sea coast running from Teesmouth to Spurn Head; a county that needs three county councils to administer its affairs, that includes the antiquity of York and the modernity of Leeds and Bradford, rivers, mountains, dales and moors, great Cistercian abbeys and noble domestic monuments such as Nostell Priory, Castle Howard and Temple Newsam; a county that once produced Rockingham china and still produces Pontefract cakes, where Cromwell turned the tide of history and Sterne called his rectory Shandy Hall; where the Brontës lived ardently and died young, and you can see the St. Leger and take the Harrogate waters and watch county cricket at Headingley—this is not a place in which a ready pen is likely to run dry.

Some of the wonders are not so wonderful as all that. One would hardly call a daily newspaper or a Victorian theatre a wonder, but Miss Hartley is a local patriot; and good luck to her. As one who for some years lived in Yorkshire, and got to know it and admire it in its almost bewildering variety, I can testify that both writer and artist have here done a job they may be proud of, in celebration of a province which they may be proud of, too.

SALMON SECRETS

RICHARD WADDINGTON, whose two books *Salmon Fishing: A New Philosophy* and *Fly Fishing for Salmon* now re-appear, edited by the author, in a single volume, *Salmon Fishing: Philosophy and Practice* (Faber, 42s.), has cast many theories into the deep, dark waters that contain the secrets of the salmon. Mr. Waddington's books have caused much argument among fishermen, for his suggestions that *salmo salar* takes a large sunk fly for a squid and an almost floating greased-line pattern for an elver are new. At the same time he has delved into the problem of the oxygen content of a river, and the effect of heavy rainfall on that oxygen content, in seeking to find a reason for running and taking fish. He introduced the Waddington type of fly with its triangle (or, on occasion, double hooks) because he sought to find a fly that swam correctly, following his deduction that it is taken because it resembles a swimming creature. He does not use a gaff but his hands to land a victim; so that he has been and is, I suspect, a revolutionary. For this reason he has brought a freshness of thought to salmon fishing and to the conundrums that an angler seeks to solve. At times perhaps he is too didactic, perhaps a little sweeping in his assertions, but, for all that, his new book will be valuable to any fisherman of enquiring mind. R. B.



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Ah! So you have just come from a visit to La Maison Hennessy in Cognac? Then you will have seen with your own eyes the largest stocks of Cognac brandy in the world. But remember, it is I in my vineyards of La Grande Champagne who have helped to build their quality. Straight on, monsieur, for Bordeaux—*et bon voyage!*

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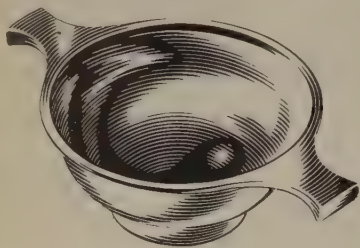
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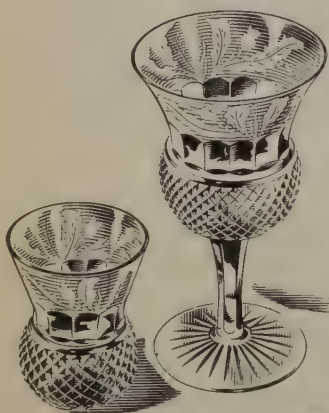
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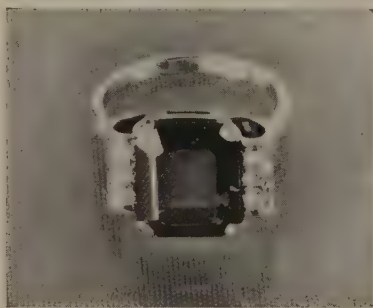
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ONLY one week to go to Christmas and time for all those who really did remember to shop early to start to wrap up their presents beautifully and lavishly. For those who have not finished their Christmas shopping yet, who do not anticipate having any spare time to devote to wrapping paper and festive decorations, it may be worth while remembering that Harrods will do your wrapping (prices for service start at 2s. 6d.), using papers or ribbons that you have selected yourself. Simpson's (readily) also have a gift-wrapping service or, if ribbons and pretty papers are not enough, can supply special boxes, sized to fit the present. In the Oxford Street area Marshall and Snelgrove will also wrap seasonably. So will Debenhams and Freebody. Their charges for this useful service vary according to the size of the parcel. In case this Christmas should be a white Christmas, Jaeger suggests a particularly welcome gift—a white Shetland knit bedjacket, made with rose-coloured, turquoise or Parma violet-coloured chiffon. The difference between a filmy jacket and other jackets is that it has a huge collar of soft white swansdown. Other fragile but pleasing gifts from this store include silk chiffon squares in a choice of 12 colours and lacy knit mohair "fascinators" as simple as sweet peas or Balenciaga-bright. Any of these could be tucked into a Christmas stocking, or, wrapped in tinsel and tied with a ribbon, would add some practical glamour to the family Christmas tree. Also sized for small stockings are pieces of costume jewellery from the house of Christian Dior. The series Lafayette has a good selection of some of the loveliest of these pieces, which are beautiful enough to convert even those women who never wear anything that is not real.

Woollands' household department, exciting even in off-peak moments, bristles with ideas for



This dress with stole, for a Christmas party, is in heavy satin. Both are made in black, cerise, orchid or turquoise; the rose is red. By Susan Small and available in London at Woollands', in Cheltenham at County Clothes and in Glasgow at Watt Brothers'

(Left) Pink sheets hemmed with white and pink broderie anglaise. They are threaded with pale-pink ribbon. The little head pillow and ribbon-tied night-dress case are both made of orchid-pink faille appliqued with motifs of white Swiss embroidery.

All at the John Cavanagh Boutique



Christmas presents for those who take their kitchens seriously. Most of the newest Scandinavian pots, pans and casseroles can be found here. There are also Portuguese ceramics (a tall mound of fruit and leaves, for instance, makes a glorious centre-piece for a dining-table), white earthenware and sombre smoky glass from Finland, lamp bases from Italy in brass and marble and tumblers from Holland. Worth noting, for the woman who has already overstocked her kitchen, are drink trays made of emerald, ruby, sapphire or plain clear Perspex, which looks just like glass but is heat-resistant and alcohol-resistant, too. For the man who likes to cook there is a cover-up apron, adequately be-pocketed, in navy and white striped denim.

Liberty's Far Eastern department has a dazzling assortment of Thailand silks and Chinese brocades, Chinese pottery and porcelain and other *objets d'art* that blend with the current passion for an Eastern décor. The General Trading Company has a splendid stock of out-of-the-ordinary presents that range from costly



(Left) A fine jacket made of chinchilla, soft and luxurious, with deep collar. By Deanfield Fur Models. The little hat is just a cap of shaded brown feathers, with a band of black velvet, and black velvet bow, framing the face. By Michael Sherard

(Above, right) A swirl of brilliant-cut diamonds twisted into a fall of diamond baguettes. The companion piece to this clip is a bracelet made of a double ribbon of large brilliant-cut diamonds with a row of baguettes in between (Kutchinsky, Knightsbridge)

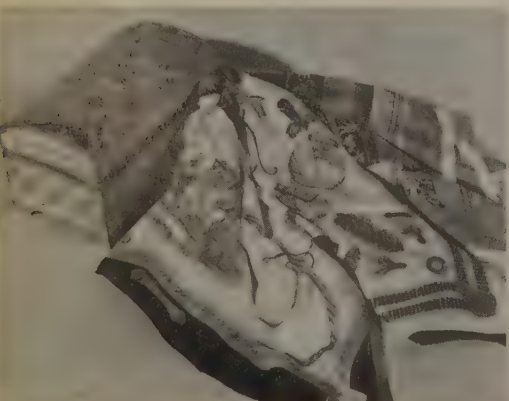
(Right) Brooch and earrings, modelled in the shape of Madonna lilies, are set with a frosty glitter of diamonds. The leaves are carved from dark green nephrite (Carrington and Co.)



Shaving cream, after-shaving lotion and sandalwood soap for a man, by the firm that were the Prince Regent's parfumeurs; boxed pot-pourri; and scented vaporiser operating from an electric light bulb. All at Floris'.

(Right) Royal Opera House silk scarf by Hardy Amies. At the Army and Navy Stores.

(Below) Large gilt casket with painted lid and Hermes scarf (Woollands). Gilt mesh change purse and glittering cigarette case and compact (Derry and Toms)



trifles in gilt and ormolu to mixing bowls and rolling pins patterned with patriotic garlands that mix roses, thistles and shamrocks. For a woman who adores little objects of almost any period and kind, Halcyon Days have collected all manner of nonsenses—notice boards to hold invitation cards, for instance, but made in satin and velvet instead of baize, porcelain desk sets, ball-pointed ostrich quill pens and little jewelled encrusted boxes to hold pills or saccharine tablets. More expensive, though in the same vein, is a transistor wireless, neatly fitted into ivory and gilt casket, and said to be excellent in reception and tone.

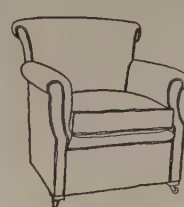
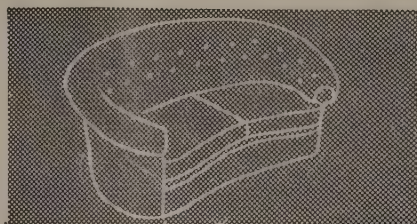
The Wedgwood bi-centenary has been celebrated by the production of a special mug with lithograph prints of Josiah Wedgwood's studio and of the original works in purple and black. This can be found wherever Wedgwood china is stocked. The newest alarm clock has an eight-day movement and an automatic alarm that will ring for about eight seconds every 12 hours for eight days: useful for those who must start at 6.30 a.m. but a disconcerting start, I find, to, for instance, a cocktail party (Watches, Switzerland).

Paris House (South Molton Street) has some enchanting gifts for women of all ages. These include, for the young, pearl or ivory gilt chains holding a pendant crystal heart, for the more sophisticated woman, delicious ornaments to sparkle in a furry hat, and for the spirals of plated metal or gunmetal to help furl and keep an umbrella in a meticulously neat spiral.

BETTY WILSON

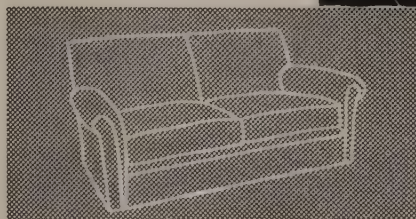
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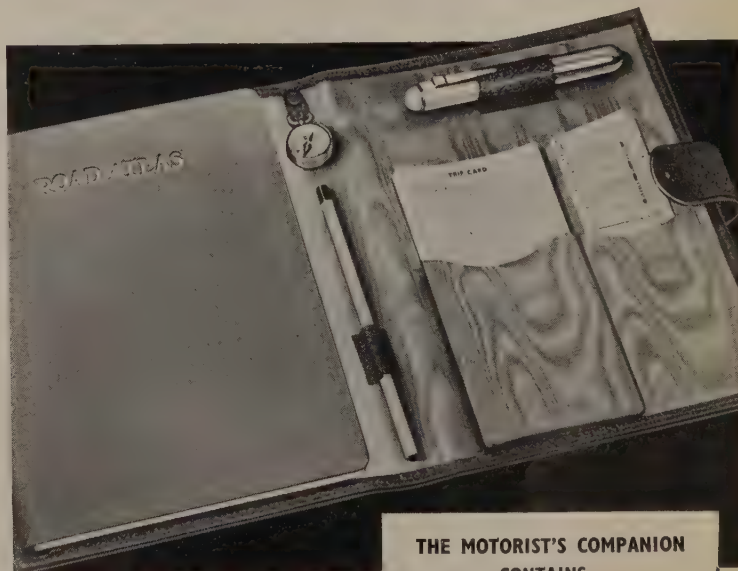
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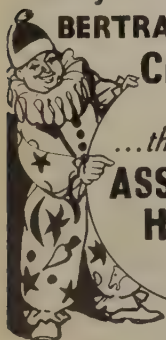
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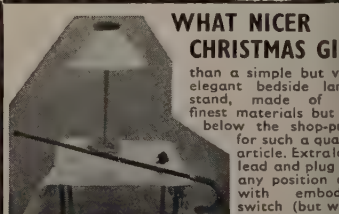
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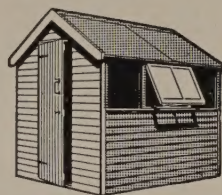
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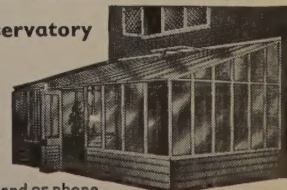


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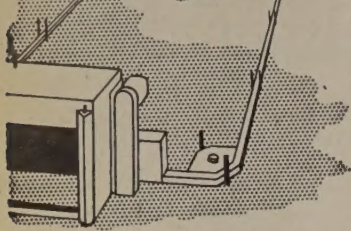
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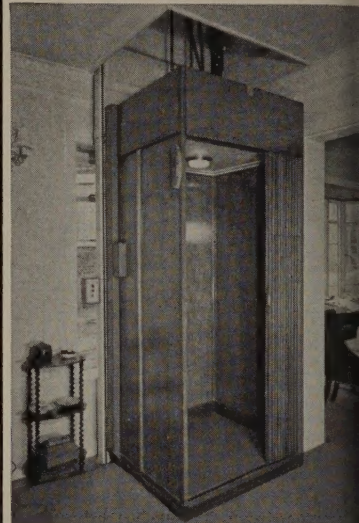
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